

K. England, Commons of - Parliament

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A
COLLECTION
Of several
ACTS
OF
PARLIAMENT.

Published in the Years

1648, 1649, 1650, and 1651.

Very useful, especially for *Justices* of the
Peace, and other *Officers* in the Execution
of their Duties, and the Administration
of JUSTICE.

VVhereunto are added some Ordinances
of Parliament of like concernment.

Together with TABLES containing the Titles
of the several *Acts* and *Ordinances* :

As also a TABLE OF KALENDER of the
principal Matters in them contained.

By *Henry Scobell* Esq; Clerk of the Parliament.

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COLLECTION

1870

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882



A Table of the several Acts of Parliament contained in this Book.

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AN ACT Of this present PARLIAMENT. FOR

The Alteration of several Names and Forms heretofore used in Courts, Writs, Grants, Patents, &c. and settling of Proceedings in Courts of Law, Justice and Equity within the Kingdoms of England and Ireland, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, & by authority of the same, That in all Courts of Law, Justice or Equity; and in all Writs, Grants, Patents, Commissions, Indictments, Informations, Suits, Returns of Writs; and in all Fines, Recoveries, Exemplifications, Recognizances, Process and Proceedings of Law, Justice or Equity

Equity Within the Kingdoms of England and Ireland, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, ~~Instead~~ of the Name, Stile, Title and Teste of the King, heretofore used, That from henceforth the Name, Stile, Title and Teste of Custodes Libertatis Angliæ Authoritate Parliamenti, shall be used; and no other; And the Date shall be the Year of the Lord, and none other: And that all duties, Profits, Penalties, Issues, Fines, Amerciaments and Forfeitures whatsoever, which heretofore were sued for in the Name of the King, shall from henceforth be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered in the said Name of Custodes libertatis Angliæ Authoritate Parliamenti, and no other: And in all or any of the Proceedings aforesaid, where the words were (Juratores pro Domino Rege) from henceforth it shall be (Juratores pro Republica) And where the words in any of the proceedings aforesaid used to be (Contra Pacem, Dignitatem vel Coronam nostram) that from henceforth these words (Contra Pacem Publicam) in stead of them, or any of them, shall be onely used: And all Judges, Justices, Officers and Ministers of Justice whatsoever, are to take notice hereof, and are hereby authorized and required to proceed accordingly, and no otherwise: And whatsoever henceforth shall be done contrary to this Act, shall be, and is hereby Declared to be Null and void. Provided always, That all writs issued out of the Chancery, and all Writs and Patents of the Justices of the one Bench and of the other, Barons of the Exchequer, Commissions of Oyer and Terminer, Goal-Delivery, and Justices of the Peace, and all other Commissions, Patents and Grants made and passed under the Great Seal of England, shall stand good

good and effectual in the Law, notwithstanding the Death of the King, Any thing in this Act, or in any Article therein contained, or any Law, Statute or Custom to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. And it is hereby further Ordained and Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Writs Original already made out under the Great Seal, and all Actions, Suits, Bills or Plaints now depending in any Court of Record in Westminster-Hall, or any other Court of Record, and all Process, Pleas, Demurs, Continuances and proceedings in every such Action, Actions, Suits, Bills and Plaints, shall be returnable, stand good and effectual, and be prosecuted and sued forth, in such manner and form, and in the same state, condition and order, The said exchanges and alterations to be as before in this Act is expressed, The death of the King, or any Law, Custom or Usage to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding: And that any variance that shall be occasioned by reason thereof touching any the said Writs, Process or Proceedings in the same, Still, Tetter or otherwise, shall not be in any wise material, as concerning any Default or Error to be alledged or objected thereunto.

Passed the Seven and twentieth of January, 1648.

An Act Prohibiting the Proclaiming of any Person to be King of England or Ireland, or the Dominions thereof.

Whereas Charles Stuart King of England, being for the notorious Treasons, Tyrannies and Murders committed by him in the late Unnatural and Cruel Wars condemned to Death; whereupon, after Execution

cution of the same, several Pretences may be made, and Title set on foot unto the Kingly Office, to the apparant hazard of the publique Peace: For prevention thereof, Be it Enacted and Ordained by this present Parliament, and by Authority of the same, That no person or persons whatsoever do presume to Proclaim, Declare, Publish, or any way promote Charles Stuart, Son of the said Charles, commonly called, The Prince of Wales, or any other person to be King, or chief Magistrate of England, or of Ireland, or of any the Dominions belonging to them or either of them, by colour of Inheritance, Succession, Election, or any other Claim whatsoever, without the free consent of the People in Parliament first had, and signified by a particular Act or Ordinance for that purpose, Any Statute, Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, and it is hereby Enacted and Ordained, That whosoever shall contrary to this Act, Proclaim, Declare, Publish, or any way promote the said Charles Stuart the Son, or any other person to be King, or Chief Magistrate of England or of Ireland, or of any the Dominions belonging to them, or to either of them, without the said consent in Parliament signified as aforesaid, shall be deemed and adjudged a Traytor to the Commonwealth, and shall suffer pains of death, and such other punishments as belong to the Crime of High Treason. And all Officers, as well Civil as Military, and all other well-affected persons, are hereby authorized and required forthwith to apprehend all such Offenders, and to bring them in safe Custody to the next Justice of the Peace,

Peace, that they may be proceeded against accordingly.

Passed the Thirtieth of *January*, 1648.

An Act for Repeal of the several Clauses in the Statutes of 1^o *Eliz.* & 3^o *Jacobi*, Touching the Oaths of Allegiance, Obedience and Supremacy.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, And by the Authority of the same, That the Oaths commonly called, The Oaths of Allegiance, Obedience and Supremacy, mentioned in the Statutes of the first year of Queen Elizabeth, and in the third year of King James, and all other Oaths of Allegiance, Obedience and Supremacy Whatsoever, shall be and are hereby wholly taken away; and that the several Clauses and Branches in the said Acts, or any other Act of Parliament touching the said Oaths or either of them, be made void and Null, and shall not hereafter be administered to any person or persons Whatsoever; neither shall any place of office be void hereafter by reason of the not taking thereof, or of any of them, Any Law, Custom or Statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

Passed the Ninth of *February*, 1648.

An Act for the Form of an Oath to be Administred to every Freeman at his Admission to his Freedom in the City of *London*, and in all Cities, Boroughs and Towns Corporate in ENGLAND and WALES.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, And by authority of the same, That the Oath underwritten, and none other, be Administred to every Freeman of the City of
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London, at the time of his Admission to the said Freedom :

YOU shall Swear, That you shall be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of *England*; and in order thereunto, You shall be obedient to the just and good Government of this City of *London*: You shall to the best of your power, maintain and preserve the Peace, and all the due Franchises thereof; and according to your knowledge and ability, do and perform all such other acts and things as do belong to a Freeman of the said City.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the same Oath *mutatis mutandis*, and no other, shall be administered to all and every Freeman in every City, Borough, and Town Corporate in England and Wales, where Oathes are ordinarily administered to Freeman, at the time of their admission to the said Freedom, in every such City, Borough and Town Corporate.

Passed the Tenth of *February*, 1648.

An Act for the more easie passing the Accompts of Sheriffs.

BE it Enacted by Authority of this present Parliament, That the charges which the respective Sheriffs of the severall Counties in England and Wales shall at any time hereafter be at, in passing their Accompts in the Exchequer (deducting the usual Allowances made to them) shall upon their delivering Notes of Receipts of such charges, under the hands of the severall Officers of the Exchequer to whom they shall pay the same (which Notes the said Officers are hereby required to give unto

unto the said Sheriffs respectively, under their hands) be deducted and allowed unto them respectively, out of the Moneys which they shall pay in to the Receipt of the Exchequer to the use of the Commonwealt upon such their respective Accompts; And the Commissioners of the Revenue, Barons of the Exchequer, and all other Officers, in the Receipt or otherwise whom it doth or may concern, are hereby authorized and required to take notice hereof, and to make such Deduction and Allowance accordingly.

Passed the Fifteenth of *February*, 1648.

An Act for Better setting of Proceedings in Courts of Justice, according to the present Government.

FOr the better settlement of Proceedings in Courts of Justice, according to the present Government of England, Be it Enacted by the Authority of this present Parliament, in manner and form following; viz. in all Presentments and Indictments, in stead of these words, Jurator' pro Dom' Rege dicunt or presentant, These words shall be used, Jurator' pro Custod' Libertat' Angl' autoritate Parliamenti dicunt or presentant; And in all Captions of Indictments, Presentments and Inquisitions, in stead of the Kings Name, the Name of The Keepers of the Liberty of England by Authority of Parliament, shall be put in; And in all Indictments and Presentments taken at any Sessions of the Peace, in stead of The Session of the Peace of the King, it shall be The Session of the Publique Peace; And in Indictments and Presentments, and in Inquisitions, in stead of these words, In pace Dei & dicti Dom' Regis ad tunc existen', these words shall be

be inserted, In pace Dei & in pace Publica adtunc existen'; & in stead of these words, Contra Pacem dicti Dom' Regis Coronam & dignitat' suas, these words shall be used, Contra pacem Publicam; And in all Indictments and Presentments, Where mention is to be made of High-ways, the same shall be called Common High-ways, and not The Kings High-ways; and these words, Dicti Dom' Regis, or Regni, or Regni sui, or Hujus Regni, or Regnum in any case; and these words, Debitam Ligeanc' suam erga Dom' Regem parvi pend'; & these words, Contra debitam ligeanc' suam & in Reg' Majestat' dicti Dom' Regis nunc defam' & derogat', shall be wholly left out of all Indictments, Presentments and Inquisitions.

And whereas in Indictments of Treason for counterfeiting, clipping, washing or impairing of Money or Coyne, these words are used to be inserted, viz. Machinans & intenden' dictum Dom' Regem & Populum suum calidè falsò, Felon' & proditor' decipere, &c. in stead thereof these words shall be inserted, viz. Machinans & intenden' Populum Angl' calidè, falsò & proditor' decipere, &c.

And whereas in such Indictments these words have used also to be inserted, viz. Diversis dicti Dom' Regis Ligeis & subdit' falsò, Felon', & proditor' exposuit, in stead thereof these words shall be inserted, viz. Diversis probis personis Angl' falsò, Felon' & proditor' exposuit.

And whereas in Indictments for Disprison of Treason for uttering of false Coyne, these words have used to be inserted, viz. Legal' Monet' & cun' dicti Dom' Regis hujus Regni Angl', in stead thereof these words shall be inserted, viz. Legal' Monet' & cun' Angl': And whereas in such Indictments these words have used to be inserted,

serted, viz. Diversis Ligeis dicti Dom' Regis subditis pro vera legitima & curren' Moneta & cun' hujus Regn' Angl' falso, voluntar' & scienter exposuit & in solutione utteravit in magnum dicti Dom' Regis & Populi sui decept', & contra debit' ligeanc', in stead thereof these words following shall be inserted, viz. Diversis probis personis Angl' pro vera, legitima & curren' Moneta & cun' Angl' falso, voluntar' & scienter exposuit & in solutione utteravit in magnum Populi Angl' decept' : All which Indictments, Presentments, Inquisitions and Captions made with such alterations, additions or omissions as aforesaid, or with other omissions, additions, or alterations as shall be proper and necessary for making good of Indictments, Presentments and Inquisitions, and supplying the sense and meaning thereof, according to the present Government of England, shall stand good and effectual in Law, Any Law, Custom or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the alterations, additions and omissions before in this Act mentioned, shall extend as well to Appeals, as to Indictments, Presentments and Inquisitions, as the case shall require.

And Whereas upon all Indictments, Presentments and Inquisitions for Treasons, Felonies, Misdemeanors, and other Trespasses, Offences and Misdemeanors whatsoever, the Clerks of the several Courts where such Indictments, Presentments or Inquisitions are and have been proceeded upon, have time out of minde, until the Death of the late King Charls, used to plead and joyn Issue with such person and persons as have been so Indicted, Presented or found by Inquisition, for and on

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the behalf of the King, as his Attorneys; Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority of this present Parliament, That from henceforth upon Indictments, Presentments and Inquisitions for any of the Offences aforesaid, or any other Offence whatsoever, the pleadings therein, and the issues shall and may be joyned with such person and persons, by the Clerks of the several Courts where such Indictments, Presentments or Inquisitions shall be proceeded upon, for and on the behalf of The Keepers of the Liberty of England by Authority of Parliament, in such sort, maner and form as they might have done before the Death of the said late King, for and on the behalf of any King of England, Any Law, Custom, Usage or other thing to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Indictments, Presentments and Inquisitions taken by Coroners, and all Actions, Informations and Suits, for and on the behalf of the said late King, or for and on the behalf of the said late King and some Informer, depending or being in any Courts of Justice at the time of the Death of the said late King, shall not be in any wise discontinued or put without day, by the Death of the said late King; but that the Process, Pleas, Demurrers, Issues and Continuances in every of the said Indictments, Presentments, Inquisitions, Actions, Informations and Suits, shall stand good and effectual, and be continued, prosecuted and sued forth, in such maner and form, and in the same estate, condition and order as the same were at the time of the Death of the said late King: And that all, and all maner of judicial process that shall be had or pursued since the

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the death of the said late King, upon the said Indictments, Presentments, Inquisitions, Actions, Informations or Suits, or upon the Pleas, Demurrers or Issues, and all Proceedings thereupon, shall be had, made and prosecuted in the Name of The Keepers of the Liberty of England by Authority of Parliament, or aswell by them as by the Informer; and that variance touching the same process and proceedings between the Name of the said late King and the said Keepers, &c. shall not be in any wise material, as concerning and default to be alleaged or objected therefore. And be it further Enacted, That all Indictments, Presentments or Inquisitions, Actions, Informations or Suits, for any Offences committed or done in the life time of the said late King, or for any Debt due to him, or cause of Action or Suit by him, and were to be had, made, done or prosecuted in the Name of the said late King, or in the Name of the said late King and an Informer, The same shall be had, made, done and prosecuted in the Name and on the behalf of the said Keepers of the Liberty of England by Authority of Parliament; or in their Name, and the Name of some Informer, as the case shall require in such sort, as where such Offences are committed, or where such cause of Action was in one Kings time, and the Indictments, Presentments, Inquisitions, Actions, Informations and Suits were to be had, made and done in another Kings time, saving that the Name of the said Keepers, &c. shall be named in the stead and place of the succeeding King.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Indictments, Presentments,

ments, Inquisitions, Actions, Informations or Suits for any Offences had, made or done since the death of the said late King, or for any Debt, Duty or matter growing due, or cause of Action arising since that time, shall be had, made, done and prosecuted in the Name and for the behalf of the said Keepers, or in the Name of them and the Informer as the case shall require.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in all Oathes to be given to any Grand-Jury, or Pettit-Jury, or to any Witnesses to give Evidence to any such Juries, and in all other Oathes wherein the Kings Name was wont to be used, the same shall be given in the Name of The Keepers of the Liberty of England by Authority of Parliament, in stead of the Name of the King, Any Law, Custom or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Passed the Seventeenth of *February*, 1648.

An Act for the Abolishing the Kingly Office in *England*, *Ireland*, and the Dominions thereunto belonging.

Whereas Charls Stuart late King of England, Ireland, and the Territories and Dominions thereunto belonging, hath by Authority derived from Parliament, been, and is hereby declared to be justly condemned, adjudged to dye, and put to death for many Treasons, Murthers, and other hainous Offences committed by him; by which Judgement he stood and is hereby Declared to be attainted of High Treason, whereby his Issue and Posterity, and all others pretending Title under him, are become incapable of the said

said Crowns, or of being King or Queen of the said Kingdom or Dominions, or either or any of them: Be it therefore Enacted and Ordained, and it is Enacted, Ordained and Declared by this present Parliament, and by authority thereof, That all the People of England and Ireland, and the Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging, of what degree or condition soever, are discharged of all Fealty, Homage and Allegiance which is or shall be pretended to be due unto any of the Issue and Posterity of the said late King, or any claiming under him; and that Charles Stuart eldest son, and James called Duke of York, second son, and all other the Issue and Posterity of him the said late King, and all and every person and persons pretending Title from, by or under him, are and be disabled to hold or enjoy the said Crown of England and Ireland, and other the Dominions thereunto belonging, or any of them; or to have the Name, Title, Style or Dignity of King or Queen of England and Ireland, Prince of Wales, or any of them; or to have and enjoy the Power and Dominion of the said Kingdoms and Dominions, or any of them; or the Honors, Manors, Lands, Tenements, Possessions and Hereditaments belonging or appertaining to the said Crown of England and Ireland, and other the Dominions aforesaid, or to any of them; or to the Principality of Wales, Duchy of Lancaster or Cornwall, or any or either of them, Any Law, Statute, Ordinance, Usage or Custom to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding: And whereas it is and hath been found by experience, that the Office of a King in this Nation and Ireland, and to have the power thereof in any single person, is

unnecessary, burthensom and dangerous to the Liberty, Safety, and Publique Interest of the People, and that for the most part use hath been made of the Regal Power and Prerogative, to Oppress, Impoverish and Enslave the Subject; and that usually and naturally any one person in such Power, makes it his Interest to incroach upon the just Freedom and Liberty of the People, and to promote the setting up of their own will and Power above the Laws, that so they might Enslave these Kingdoms to their own Lust: Be it therefore Enacted and Ordained by this present Parliament, and by Authority of the same, That the Office of a King in this Nation shall not henceforth reside in, or be exercised by any one single person; and that no one person whatsoever, shall or may have, or hold the Office, Stile, Dignity, Power or Authority of King of the said Kingdoms and Dominions, or any of them, or of the Prince of Wales, Any Law, Statute, Usage or Custom to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. And it is hereby Enacted, That if any person or persons shall endeavor to attempt by force of Arms or otherwise, or be ayding, assisting, comforting or abetting, unto any person or persons that shall by any ways or means whatsoever, endeavor or attempt the reviving or setting up again of any pretended Right of the said Charles, eldest Son to the said late King, James called Duke of York, or of any other the Issue and Posterity of the said late King, or of any person or persons claiming under him or them, to the said Regal Office, Stile, Dignity or Authority, or to be Prince of Wales; or the promoting of any one person whatsoever, to the Name, Stile,

Stile, Dignity, Power, Prerogative or Authority of King of England and Ireland, and Dominions aforesaid, or any of them; That then every such Offence shall be deemed and adjudged high Treason, and the Offenders therein, their Councillors, Procurers, Ayders and Abettors, being convicted of the said Offence, or any of them, shall be deemed and adjudged Traytors against the Parliament and People of England, and shall suffer, lose and forfeit, and have such like and the same Pains, Forfeitures, Judgements and Execution, as is used in case of high Treason: And Whereas by the abolition of the Kingly Office provided for in this Act, a most happy way is made for this Nation (if God see it good) to return to its just and ancient Right, of being Governed by its own Representatives or National Meetings in Council, from time to time chosen and entrusted for that purpose by the People, It is therefore Resolved and Declared by the Commons assembled in Parliament, That they will put a period to the sitting of this present Parliament, and dissolve the same so soon as may possibly stand with the Safety of the People that hath trusted them, and with what is absolutely necessary for the preserving and upholding the Government now settled in the way of a Commonwealth; and that they will carefully provide for the certain chusing, meeting and sitting of the next and future Representatives, with such other Circumstances of Freedom in Choice and equality in distribution of Members to be Elected thereunto, as shall most conduce to the lasting Freedom and good of this Commonwealth: And it is hereby further Enacted and Declared, notwithstanding any thing con-

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tained in this Act, no person or persons of what condition and quality soever, within the Commonwealth of England and Ireland, Dominion of Wales, the Islands of Guernsey and Jersey, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, shall be discharged from the Obedience and Subjection which he and they owe to the Government of this Nation, as it is now Declared; but all and every of them shall in all things render and perform the same, as of right is due unto the Supreme Authority hereby declared to reside in this and the successive Representatives of the People of this Nation, and in them only.

Passed the Seventeenth of *March*, 1648.

An Act for Abolishing the House of P E E R S.

The Commons of England assembled in Parliament, finding by too long experience, that the House of Lords is useless and dangerous to the People of England to be continued, have thought fit to Ordain and Enact, and be it Ordained and Enacted by this present Parliament and by the Authority of the same, That from henceforth the House of Lords in Parliament, shall be and is hereby wholly abolished and taken away; And that the Lords shall not from henceforth meet or sit in the said House called the Lords House, or in any other House or Place whatsoever, as a House of Lords; nor shall Sit, Vote, Advise, Adjudge, or Determine of any matter or thing whatsoever as a House of Lords in Parliament: Nevertheless it is hereby Declared, That neither such Lords as have demeaned themselves with Honor, Courage and Fidelity to the Commonwealth,

wealth, nor their Posterities (Who shall continue so) shall be excluded from the publique Councils of the Nation, but shall be admitted thereunto, and have their Free Vote in Parliament, if they shall be thereunto Elected, as other persons of Interest Elected and Qualified thereunto ought to have: And be it further Ordained and Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Peer of this Land (not being Elected, Qualified, and sitting in Parliament as aforesaid) shall claim, have, or make use of any privilege of Parliament, either in relation to his Person, Quality or Estate, Any Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Passed the Nineteenth of *March*, 1684. — *af*

An Act Declaring and Constituting the People of *England* to be a Commonwealth and Free-State.

BE it Declared and Enacted by this present Parliament, and by the Authority of the same, That the People of England and of all the Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging, are and shall be, and are hereby Constituted, Made, Established and Confirmed to be a Commonwealth and Free-State: And shall from henceforth be Governed as a Commonwealth and Free-State, by the Supreme Authority of this Nation, The Representatives of the people in Parliament, and by such as they shall appoint and constitute as Officers and Ministers under them for the good of the people, and that without any King or House of Lords.

Passed the Nineteenth of *May*, 1649.

An Act touching the Moneys and Coyns of *England*.

Whereas the ordering of Moneys and Coyns, and setting the same at such valuations and prizes as shall be thought convenient and necessary, is appropriate and of right belonging to the Sovereign and Supreme Authority of this Commonwealth; And the Parliament having Resolved to change and alter the former Stamps, Arms, Pictures, With the Motto's, Words, Stiles and Inscriptions in and about the same, and to cause new Coyns of Gold and Silver to be made of several Stamps, weights and Values, but of one uniform Standard and Allay, to be current within this State and Commonwealth of England; (that is to say) One piece of Gold of the value of Twenty Shillings Sterlin, to be called, The Twenty Shillings Piece, stamped on the one side with the Cross and a Palm and Lawrel, with these Words, The Commonwealth of England; and on the other side with the Cross and Harp, with these Words, God with us: one other piece of Gold Money of Ten Shillings, to be called, The Ten shillings piece; and one other piece of Gold money of Ten Shillings, to be called, The Five shillings piece, with the same Words, Inscriptions, Pictures and Arms on each side as the former: And for Silver moneys, pieces of Five Shillings, and pieces of Two Shillings and six pence, and pieces of twelve pence, and pieces of Six pence, having the same Words, Inscriptions, Pictures and Arms on each side as the former; Also pieces of Two pence, and One penny, having the same Pictures and Arms as the former, without any Words or Inscriptions;

ons; and the half peny having on the one side a Cross, and on the other side a Harp: All which severall Coyns of Gold and Silver, the Parliament doth hereby Enact, Declare, Publish and Authorize to be amongst others heretofore used, the Moneys current for this State and Commonwealth of England, to be used and received by all the People of this Nation, in all Receipts and Payments, and in all manner of Traffiquing, Bargaining and Dealing between man and man, at the severall Rates and Values contained in the Schedule or Table hereunto annexed, expressing their true Values and Weights, according to the Accompt of the Mint within the Tower of London.

| Pieces of Gold; | S. XX S. X S. V | Peny weights 20. | Grains 24. | Mites 10. | Droits 24. | Perits 20. | Blanks 24. |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | 05 | 20 | 10 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| | | 02 | 22 | 05 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| | | 01 | 11 | 02 | 12 | 00 | 00 |

Pieces

Pieces of
Silver;

| | | | | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| s. | 19 | 08 | 10 | 08 | 00 | 00 |
| v | | | | | | |
| s.d. | 09 | 16 | 05 | 04 | 00 | 00 |
| ii vi | | | | | | |
| d. | 03 | 20 | 18 | 01 | 10 | 00 |
| xii | | | | | | |
| d. | 01 | 22 | 09 | 00 | 15 | |
| vi | | | | | | |
| d. | 00 | 15 | 09 | 16 | 05 | |
| ii | | | | | | |
| d. | 00 | 07 | 14 | 20 | 20 | 12 |
| i | | | | | | |
| ob. | 00 | 03 | 17 | 10 | 10 | 06 |

Memorandum, Twelve Ounces makes a pound weight Troy; Twenty penny weight makes an Ounce; Twenty four Grains makes a penny weight; Twenty Mites makes a Grain; Twenty four Droits makes a Mite; Twenty Perits makes a Droit; Twenty four Blanks makes a Perit.

Passed the Seventeenth of July, 1649.

An Act declaring what Offences shall be adjudged
TREASON.

Whereas the Parliament hath Abolished the Kingly Office in England and Ireland, and in the Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging; and having Resolved and Declared, That the People shall for the future be Governed by its own Representatives or National Meetings in Council, Chosen and Entrusted by them for that purpose, hath settled the Government in the way of a Commonwealth and Free State, without King or House of Lords: Be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and by the Authority

ty of the same, That if any person shall maliciously or advisedly publish, by writing, printing, or openly declaring, That the said Government is Tyrannical, Usurped or Unlawful; or that the Commons in Parliament assembled are not the Supreme Authority of this Nation; or shall Plot, Contrive or Endeavor to stir up, or raise force against the present Government, or for the subversion or alteration of the same, and shall declare the same by any open deed, That then every such Offence shall be taken, deemed and adjudged by Authority of this Parliament to be High Treason. And Whereas The Keepers of the Liberty of England, and the Council of State, constituted, and to be from time to time constituted by Authority of Parliament, are to be under the said Representatives in Parliament, Entrusted for the maintenance of the said Government, with several Powers and Authorities limited, given and appointed unto them by the Parliament; Be it likewise Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person shall maliciously and advisedly plot or endeavor the subversion of the said Keepers of the Liberty of England, or the Council of State, and the same shall declare by any open deed, or shall move any person or persons for the doing thereof, or stir up the people to rise against them or either of them, their or either of their Authorities, That then every such Offence and Offences, shall be taken, deemed and declared to be High Treason. And Whereas the Parliament, for their just and lawful Defence, hath raised and levied the Army and Forces now under the Command of Thomas Lord Fairfax, and are at present necessitated, by reason of the manifold Distractions

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Within

With in this Commonwealth, and Invasions
 threathned from abroad, to continue the same,
 Which under God, must be the Instrumental
 means of preserving the Well-affected people of
 this Nation in Peace and Safety; Be it fur-
 ther Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That
 if any person, not being an Officer, Soldier
 or Member of the Army, shall Plot, Contrive
 or Endeavor to stir up any mutiny in the said
 Army, or Withdraw any Soldiers or Officers
 from their Obedience to their Superior Offi-
 cers, or from the present Government as afore-
 said; or shall procure, invite, ayd or assist any
 Foraigners or Strangers to Invade England
 or Ireland; or shall adhere to any Forces raised
 by the Enemies of the Parliament or Com-
 monwealth, or Keepers of the Liberty of England;
 or if any person shall Counterfeit the Great
 Seal of England for the time being, used and
 appointed by Authority of Parliament, That
 then every such Offence and Offences shall be
 taken, deemed and declared by Authority of
 this Parliament, to be High Treason; and
 every such person shall suffer pains of death,
 and also forfeit unto the Keepers of the Liberty of
 England, to and for the use of the Common-
 wealth, all and singular his and their Lands,
 Tenements and Hereditaments, Goods and
 Chattels, as in case of High Treason hath been
 used by the Laws and Statutes of this Land
 to be forfeit and lost. Provided always, That no
 persons shall be Indicted & Arraigned for any
 of the Offences mentioned in this Act, unless
 such Offenders shall be Indicted and prosecu-
 ted for the same within one year after the Of-
 fence committed. And be it further Enacted by
 the Authority aforesaid, That if any person
 shall

shall counterfeit the Money of this Commonwealth, or shall bring any false Money into this Land, counterfeit or other, like to the Money of this Commonwealth, knowing the Money to be false, to Merchandize or make payment in deceit of the People of this Nation; or if any person shall hereafter falsly forge and counterfeit any such kinde of Coyne of Gold or Silver, as is not the proper Coyne of this Commonwealth, and is or shall be current within this Nation, by consent of the Parliament, or such as shall be by them authorized thereunto; or shall bring from the parts beyond the Seas into this Commonwealth, or into any the Dominions of the same, any such false and counterfeit Coyne of Money, being current within the same as is abovesaid, knowing the same Money to be false and counterfeit, to the intent to utter or make payment with the same within this Commonwealth, by Merchandize or otherwise; or if any person shall Impair, Diminish, Falsifie, Clip, Wash, Round or File, Scale or Lighten, for Wicked Lucre or Gains sake, any the proper Monies or Coyns of this Commonwealth, or the Dominions thereof, or of the Monies or Coyns of any other Realm, allowed and suffered to be current within this Commonwealth, or the Dominions thereof, That then all and every such Offences abovementioned, shall be and are hereby deemed and adjudged High Treason, and the Offenders therein, their Counsellors, Procurers, Ayders and Abettors, being convicted according to the Lawes of this Nation of any of the said Offences, shall be deemed and adjudged Traytors against this Commonwealth, and shall suffer and have such pains

pains of Death and Forfeitures, as in case of High Treason is used and Ordained. Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act touching the Honours and Coyns aforesaid, or any thing therein contained, nor any Attainder of any person for the same, shall in any wise extend or be judged to make any corruption of Blood, to any the Heir or Heirs of any such Offender, or to make the Wife of any such Offender to lose or forfeit her Dowry, of or in any Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments, or her Title, Action or Interest in the same.

Passed the Seventeenth of July, 1649.

An Act giving Power to the Committee of Indemnity to transmit the Examination of all such Articles or Informations as shall be exhibited to them against any Malignant or Delinquent Magistrates, or other ill-affected Officers, to Justices of Peace in the several Counties.

BE it Enacted and Ordained, and it is Enacted and Ordained by Authority of this present Parliament, That the Committee of Parliament for Indemnity, or any five or more of them, have power, and are hereby authorized to transmit to any two or more Justices of the Peace in the respective Counties, Cities or Corporations of England and Wales, all or any such Articles or Informations as shall be exhibited to them against any Malignant or Delinquent Magistrate, or other Officer or Officers within the said County, or within any Borough or Town Corporate therein, according to two Ordinances of Parliament in that behalf made, bearing date the Ninth of September

tember and Fourth of October, One thousand six hundred forty seven; which two or more Justices of Peace are hereby Impowred and Required to send for such witness or witnesses as shall be desired, as well against as on the behalf of such Delinquent or ill-affected Officer, and them upon Oath to examine, concerning the truth of all or any of the said Articles; which Oath the said two or more Justices of Peace are hereby likewise authorized to administer, and to return the same, together with the said Articles or Informations, to the said Committee of Indemnity, sealed up: And also if any person or persons that now be, or hereafter shall be sued, indicted or molested, for or concerning any act or thing done by him by Authority, or for the Service of the Parliament, or during his or their being in Arms for the Parliament, contrary to several Ordinances in that behalf made, That in such case upon complaint made, and stating the case by Petition to any two or more Justices, The said Justices, or any two or more of them shall have power, and are hereby authorized and required to send for such witnesses as are desired, as well against, as on the behalf of the person or persons complained of, and them upon Oath to examine (which Oath the said Justices or any two or more of them shall have power, and are hereby authorized likewise to Administer) and in case they cannot compose the said Difference, then to return the said several and respective Depositions so taken, and Petition (sealed up) to the said Committee of Indemnity, who are Authorized and Required to proceed to give Judgement, and make further proceedings upon the same, and upon the Depositions concerning

cerning disaffected Officers as aforesaid, according to the respective powers given them by this or any other Ordinance of Parliament for that purpose.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That one Act of this present Parliament, Entituled, An Act giving Power to the Committee of Indempnity to transmit the Examination of all such Articles and Informations as shall be exhibited to them against any Malignant or Delinquent Magistrates, or other ill-affected Officers, to Justices of Peace in the several Counties, be, and is hereby Repealed and made void.

Passed the Seventeenth of *August*, 1649.

An Act prohibiting the Importation of any Wines, Wool or Silk from the Kingdom of *France*, into the Commonwealth of *England* or *Ireland*, or any the Dominions thereunto belonging.

The Parliament of England taking notice of a late Declaration of the French King, verified in the Parliament at Paris, Whereby are prohibited all Negotiations to bring, or cause to be brought into that Kingdom, the Drapery of Wool or of Silk made in England, on pain of Confiscation and other great penalties; and that by force of that Declaration, divers Goods of great value of English Merchants there found, have been seized, and are detained from the true Proprietors thereof, notwithstanding several Clauses in the Treaty between the two Nations for Encouraging the English Trade there: And being induced by the Grounds of Common Equity and Reason, and by their own Duty, to provide for the Interest and good of this Commonwealth, Have thought

thought fit to Enact, and be it Enacted by Authority of Parliament, That all Wines of the Growth of the Kingdom of France, or any Dominions belonging to the same, and all Manufactures of Wool and Silk, made or to be made in the Kingdom of France, or any of the Dominions belonging to the French King, shall be, and are hereby prohibited to be brought into any Port or Ports, place or places within England or Ireland, or any the Dominions thereof, by any person or persons whatsoever, from and after the Seventh day of September, One thousand six hundred forty nine, on pain of Confiscation of the Ship and Goods therein Imported contrary to this Act, and the penalty of Two hundred pounds more to be levied on every person offending contrary to this Act; The one moiety of the Forfeiture to be to the party that shall inform of any breach of this Act, and the other moiety of the Forfeiture to the use of the Commonwealth, to be recovered in any of the Courts of Record at Westminster. And to the end that due intimation and publication of this Act may be made, that none may pretend ignorance thereof, Be it further Ordered and Enacted, That this present Act shall be published by a Sergeant at Arms three several days upon the Exchange London, at the time of the Concourse of Merchants thither.

Passed the Eight and twentieth of *August*, 1649.

An Act for Discharging poor Prisoners unable to satisfie
their CREDITORS.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, and by authority thereof, That the Judge or Judges of that Court from whence the
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process issued, upon which any person now is Imprisoned upon any Process or Execution, Where the Cause of Action was Originally for Debt, upon the Request of such party, and taking his or her Oath, which the said Judge or Judges have hereby power and authority to administer.

That *bona fide* he or she is not worth in Possession, Reversion or Remainder of any Estate Real or Personal, to the value of Five pounds, besides necessary wearing Apparel, and Bedding for himself, his wife and children, and Tools necessary for his Trade or Occupation, not exceeding the value of Five pounds; and hath not directly or indirectly conveyed or intrusted his or her Estate, thereby to expect any Profit, Benefit or Advantage.

That then the Judge or Judges aforesaid, shall and may by Warrant under their Hand and Seal, summon to appear before them, within thirty days after personal notice given thereof to the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or left at his or their dwelling house or houses, lodging or last abode; And if thereupon the said Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall not appear, or some other person or persons for or on his or their behalf, and shew just and lawful excuse for his or their absence, or shall appear, and cannot deny the truth of the said Oath, That then the said Judge or Judges shall Discharge the said party of and from his or her Imprisonment, Any Law, Statute, Usage or Custom to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. Provided always, That if at any time within Seven years after the taking of the said Oath by the said prisoner as aforesaid, it shall be discovered, That the said prisoner

soner hath falsly Sworn in taking the said Oath, and shall be thereof lawfully convicted, That then the said Judge or Judges shall by his or their Warrant, cause the said Prisoner to be again reimprisoned for the cause or causes for which he or she was formerly imprisoned, be it in Execution or otherwise, as though this Act had never been made; and such Prisoner shall and may be Indicted for Perjury, and shall suffer such pains and forfeitures as by any Statute or Law may be inflicted upon any person convicted for Perjury: Provided, that notwithstanding the Discharge of the person of such Debtor, all and every former Judgement and Execution had or taken forth against such Debtor, shall be and stand good against the Goods and Chattels of the said Debtor (except before excepted) And that it shall and may be lawful, to and for the Creditor of such Debtors, to take out any new Execution against any or other the Lands, Goods and Chattels of such Debtor (except before excepted) for the satisfaction of his said Debt, Any Law, Statute, Ordinance or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding: Provided that this Act, or any thing therein contained, shall not extend to any other person or persons, then such as are now in Prison, nor unto any person or persons now in Prison for any cause or causes, save only for Debt as aforesaid; Nor shall extend to any person or persons who have been in Arms against the Parliament, or have adhered to the Forces raised against the Parliament.

Passed the Fourth of September, 1649.

An Act concerning Oathes to Majors and other Officers.

FOr the better preventing the great and many mischiefs that daily happen, by reason of sundry Unlawful Oathes formerly imposed upon Majors, Justices of the Peace, and other Officers within the City of London, and other Cities and places within this Commonwealth; The Parliament now assembled do Enact and Ordain, and be it by Authority of Parliament Enacted and Ordained, That from and after the Tenth day of September, One thousand six hundred forty nine, this ensuing Oath be given and administred to the Major of London, and to all Majors and Chief Officers in any City, Borough or Town Corporate within England, Wales, and Town of Berwick, to be given and administred by such person or persons, and at such place and time as former Oathes were used to be given to the said Majors and chief Officers as abovesaid; viz.

You shall Swear, That you shall be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of *England*, as it is now Established without King or House of Lords: You shall well and truly execute the Office of Major within the City of and Liberties thereof, according to the best of your skill, knowledge and power. So help you God.

The like Oath (*mutatis mutandis*) to be administred and given to all Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Bayliffs, Aldermen, Recorders, Stewards, Common-Council-men, Coroners, Clerks of the Market, Barons of the Cinque-Ports, Boroughholders, Constables, Tythingmen, Sergeants of the Peace, Town Clerks, Marshals, & Water-Bayliffs, or other publique Officers

cers within any City or Town-corporate aforesaid, or other Liberty, Franchise or place within England, Wales, and Town of Berwick. And be it further Enacted, That all or any person or persons that have formerly had power and authority to administer any Oath to the said Majors, Justices of Peace, Bayliffs, Aldermen, Recorders, Stewards, Common-Councilmen, Barons of the Cinque Ports, Constables and Tythingmen, and other persons and Officers abovesaid, shall from the said Tenth of September, minister and give the said Oath and Oathes as abovesaid, to the said Officers and persons abovesaid, and no other Oath.

Provided, That all such Officers as abovesaid, as have taken any Oath for making true Accompt of any Fines, Rents, or other sums of money by them received or to be received, shall take the same Oath in order and relation to make their Accompts, as formerly was used and accustomed. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That all person or persons that shall take any Oath from any person or persons that is authorized to give and minister the same, shall and may at the time of taking such Oath or Oathes, lay his Right hand upon the Bible, or otherwise hold up his Right hand during the time such Oath is ministered to him or them.

Passed the Fifth of September, 1649.

An Act against Unlicensed and Scandalous Books and Pamphlets,
and for better Regulating of Printing.

Whereas divers Scandalous, Seditious
and Libellous Pamphlets, Papers and
Books are daily contrived, printed, vended
and

and dispersed, With officious care and industry by the Malignant party at home and abroad, for the better compassing of their Wicked ends, The subversion of the Parliament and present Government, Which they Well know cannot With more ease be attempted, then by lies and false Suggestions, cunningly insinuated and spread amongst the People, and by malicious misrepresentation of things acted and done, to take off and divide their Affections from that Just Authority which is set over them for their good and safety, and to bring a low and mean esteem upon the persons, and a suspicion and hatred upon the courses and intentions of the faithful Members of the Peoples Representative in Parliament, and of other Ministers of State, serving the Commonwealth in their several Subordinations; especially such who are most constant and conscientious in discharge of their Trust, and are therefore become the utmost object of their Wretched spleen and malice: And Whereas a great occasion of these mischiefs and scandals, and dis-satisfaction of many, hath been as Well the ignorance and assumed boldness of the Weekly Pamphletters, Without leave or due information, taking upon them to publish, and at pleasure to censure the Proceedings of Parliament and Army, and other Affairs of State; as also the irregularity and licentiousness of Printing, the Art whereof in this Commonwealth, and in all Forraign parts, hath been and ought to be restrained from too arbitrary and general an exercise: To prevent the many mischiefs inevitably following thereupon, The Parliament of England duly considering the premises, and Willing to apply fit remedy herein, Do Enact and Ordain,

Ordain, and be it by the Authority aforesaid Enacted and Ordained, That the Laws made formerly and at this present Parliament, now in force for punishment of devisers and spreaders of false and seditious News, Lies and Rumors, by Writing, printing, speaking or otherwise, shall be put in due and diligent Execution, according to the Tenor of the same Acts; And for further Remedy, Be it Enacted and Ordained, That no person or persons whatsoever, shall presume to make, write, print, publish, sell or utter, or cause to be made, printed or uttered, any Scandalous or Libellous Books, pamphlets, papers or pictures whatsoever, upon the penalties following; that is to say, The Authors of such Books, Pictures or Papers, shall forfeit Ten pounds, or be Imprisoned in the Common Goal of the County or Liberty where the Offence is committed, or the Offender shall be found, until he shall pay the same, so that the Imprisonment exceed not Forty days; The Printer to forfeit and pay Five pounds, and suffer the like Imprisonment until he pay the same, the said Imprisonment not exceeding Twenty days, and likewise to have his Press and Implements of Imprinting seized, and broken in pieces; The Bookseller and Stationer to forfeit and pay Forty shillings, or be Imprisoned in like manner, until he pay the same, the Imprisonment not exceeding Ten days. And be it further Enacted, That if any person happen to buy any such seditious, scandalous or libellous pamphlets or papers, and shall not within Four and twenty hours after knowledge thereof bring them to the Lord Mayor of London (if the Buyers residence be there) or to some other Justice of the Peace

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within the County, City or Liberty where such Buyers shall then happen to be, to be sent up, and disposed of as by this Act is afterwards mentioned, and give notice likewise of the party or parties of Whom he or they had or bought the same, shall forfeit for every such omission the sum of Twenty Shillings for every such concealed paper, pamphlet or book, to be disposed of as is herein after mentioned. And for the prevention of false, imperfect, and impertinent Relations of Parliamentary proceedings, and other such Occurrences and News, the truth whereof may be fit to be known and published, for the satisfaction of all the good people of this Commonwealth therein interested, and of all the Well affected thereto, in the clear Information of the State of Affairs; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no person whatsoever shall compose, write, print, publish, sell or utter, or cause to be made, written, printed or uttered, any Book or pamphlet, Treatise, sheet or sheets of News whatsoever, unless Licensed (as is hereafter mentioned) upon the like penalty as upon the Maker, Writer, Printer, Bookseller and Stationer respectively of scandalous Books and Pamphlets, both for Fine and Imprisonment, is herein before limited and appointed. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That the Offender aforesaid shall be discovered, the Offences heard and examined, and the penalties levied and disposed of in such sort, manner and form, as is limited, directed and expressed in an Ordinance of Parliament made in September, One thousand six hundred forty and seven, Against Unlicensed Pamphlets, and for the better Regulating of Printing. **Provided, That so much**
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of the said Ordinance as specifies the imposition of penalties upon such Offenders as are before mentioned, in respect that higher penalties are in stead thereof herein limited and designed, shall stand from henceforth Repealed, and be of no further effect. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all former Licenses granted by Authority of both or either House of Parliament to any person or persons, for printing any Diurnal, News or Occurrences, shall be from henceforth void and of no further effect; And that no Book, pamphlet, sheet or sheets of News or Occurrences whatsoever, shall henceforth be printed, bound, stitched or put to sale by any person or persons whatsoever, unless the same be first approved of and Licensed under the Hand of the Clerk of the Parliament, or of such person as shall be authorized by the Council of State for the time being; or (for so much as may concern the Affairs of the Army) under the Hand of the Secretary of the Army for the time being, the same to be entered in their several Registers, to be by them kept for that purpose; and also in the Register-Book of the Company of Stationers, according to ancient custom; and the Printer thereof to put his Hand thereto. Provided always, and it is hereby Declared, That the penalties in this Act expressed, shall not extend to quit any person or persons, that shall make, Write, print, publish, sell or utter, or cause to be made, Written, published, sold or uttered, any Book, Pamphlet, Treatise, Ballad, Libel, sheet or sheets of News, that shall contain any Seditious, Treasonable or Blasphemous matter, but the Offenders in such kinde shall be lyable to such further penalties, as by the
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Laws of the Land are provided, or by Authority of Parliament shall be judged according to the quality of such Offences. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Masters and Wardens of the Company of Stationers London, assisted with such persons as the Council of State shall for that purpose nominate or approve, shall and may make diligent search in all places where they shall think meet, for all unallowed Printing-presses, and all presses any way employed in the printing of any such Unlicensed Books as aforesaid; or of any malignant, seditious or scandalous Books, Pictures or Papers, and to seize and carry away such Printing-presses and Letters, together with the Nut, Spindle, and other materials of every such Irregular Printer, which they finde so mis-employed, unto the Common-hall of the said Company, there to be defaced and made unserviceable, according to ancient Custom; and likewise to make diligent search in all suspected Printing-houses, Ware-houses, Shops, and other places, for such Unlicensed and Scandalous Books, Papers, Pamphlets, and all other such Books not entred, nor signed with the Printers Name, and place of residency, being printed or reprinted by such as have no lawful Interest in them, and the same to seize; and likewise to apprehend all Authors, Printers, and other persons whatsoever, employed in Compiling, Printing, Stitching, Binding, publishing and dispersing of the said Scandalous and Unwarrantable Papers and Books, and all those who shall assist the said parties in searching after them; and to bring the Offenders, and what they shall have so seized, before such Magistrate or other Officers

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as are appointed for the Execution of this Act, to be by them ordered and disposed of, according to the direction and true meaning of the same Act. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no person or persons whatsoever, shall presume, by the Post, Carriers, or otherwise to convey, send away, or endeavor to disperse any such Unlicensed News as aforesaid, or any Seditious or Scandalous Papers, Pamphlets, Books or Pictures, to any place, or person or persons, upon pain of forfeiture of Forty shillings apiece for every such Book, Pamphlet or Paper, or Imprisonment of the Offender, the same not to exceed Forty days; the said penalty to be inflicted, paid and undergone, the Moneys to be disposed of, and such inquiry, searches and seizures touching the same to be made, as in the case of selling unlicensed News is herein before limited and expressed. And Whereas the great numbers of lewd and scandalous pamphlets and seditious Books, have been chiefly occasioned by the multitude of printing-houses, and presses erected in by-places and corners, out of the eye of Government, contrary to the custom and practice of former times; and in that regard some further provision is held requisite for restraining and regulating that general excess and exercise of the press, and prevention of the said Enormities, It is therefore further Enacted and Ordained by this present Parliament, and by the Authority thereof, That no Printer, nor any other person or persons whatsoever, shall from henceforth print, use or employ any Printing-press, Rolling press, or any other Instruments for printing, in any part or place of this Commonwealth, save onely in the City of London,

don, and Liberties thereof, and the two Universities (excepting such as shall be particularly Licensed and Authorized by special Order of the Council of State) upon pain that all and every person and persons offending contrary hereunto, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty pounds, and shall have all their Printing-presses, Letters and Materials defaced, and he for ever disabled to be a Master-printer and Owner of a Printing press. Provided, That this Clause shall not be construed to extend to the Printing press now used in the City of York, nor to the Printing-press now used in in Finsbury, for the printing of Bibles and Psalms; but that the same shall be in like condition to all purposes, as if this Act had not been had or made. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Printer, or other person or persons whatsoever in the said City of London, who now keep Printing-houses, or are Owners of Printing presses, Rolling-presses, or other Instruments for printing; as also the Owners of the printing-press in Finsbury aforesaid, shall before the first day of October, One thousand six hundred forty nine, enter into Bond, with two Sureties, of Three hundred pounds penalty to the Keepers of the Liberty of England by Authority of Parliament, Not to print, nor cause to be printed, any seditious, scandalous or treasonable pamphlet, paper, book or picture, dishonorable to, or against the State and Government; nor any pamphlet, paper, or book of News, not Licensed as aforesaid, and Entered in the Register Book of the said Company; nor suffer their printing presses, or other Instruments for printing, to be used for any such unlawful purpose

purpose aforesaid; and that he and they shall also to every Book, Pamphlet, Paper or Picture he or they shall imprint, in the Title page of each Book prefix the Authors name, with his quality and place of Residence, or at least the Licensers Names where Licenses are required, and his own Name and place of Residence at length, upon pain to forfeit the sum of Ten pounds for every wilful failing, and to have all his or their printing Materials defaced; and for the second Offence to be disabled from any more exercise of his Trade of Printing: And that like caution shall be given by the Owner of the Press at York, to the Keepers of the Liberty of England as aforesaid, and by the Printers within either University, to the said Keepers of the Liberty of England, in like sum, and for like purposes, and upon like penalties for failing, as is herein lastly mentioned, Whereof the especial care to see the same performed within the time last before limited, is especially commended to the Lord Mayor of York, and to the said Vice-Chancellors respectively, of which they are under their Hands and Seals to make Certificate to the Council of State, before the Tenth day of October, One thousand six hundred forty nine. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no person or persons whatsoever, shall hereafter set up a Printing-press, Rolling-press, or other Instrument for printing; nor cast any printing Letters, before they enter into Bond as aforesaid; nor shall any person or persons demise or let, or bring within his or their dispose, suffer to be held or used, any House, Vault, Cellar, or other Room whatsoever, to or by any person or persons for a Printing-house, or place to print in, unless he

he or they so demising and suffering, shall first give notice to the Master or Wardens of the Stationers for the time being, of such demises or suffering to work or print there, upon pain of forfeiture of Five pounds for every such Offence; of which intimation the Master and Wardens are hereby enjoined to make an Entry in their Register-Book, upon like pain of forfeiture of Five pounds for every omission thereof. And be it further Enacted, That no Joyner or Carpenter or other person, shall make any Printing-press or Rolling-press, nor any Smith shall forge any Iron-work for a Printing-press, nor any Founder cast any printing-letters for any person or persons whatsoever; neither shall any person or persons Import, or cause to be Imported or brought into this Commonwealth, from any parts beyond the Seas, any Printing-press or presses, or any Letters founded or cast, nor shall any person or persons buy any such presses or Letters for printing, unless he or they respectively shall first acquaint the Master and the Wardens of the aforesaid Company for the time being, for whom the same press, Iron works or Letters are to be made, forged, Imported, bought or cast, upon pain of forfeiture of Five pounds for every such Offence; of which intimation the Master and Wardens are to make Entry in their said Register, upon like penalty of forfeiture of Five pounds for every omission thereof. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no person or persons whatsoever, shall Import any Scandalous or Seditious Books, pamphlets or papers, upon pain of forfeiture of Five pounds for every such Book, pamphlet or paper; nor shall any person or persons land any

any Imported Books, at any Port or place of this Commonwealth, save onely at the Port of London; and that no Drifats, Packs, Paunds, Chests, or Fardels of Books, be permitted by any Officers of the Customs or Ex-cize to be opened or conveyed away, before notice given, and the same be viewed by the said Master and Wardens of the said Company, or such as they shall appoint, upon pain of forfeiture of Five pounds for every such Offence, so as the Master and Wardens or their Deputies, do make the said view within Forty eight hours after such notice, which they are hereby required to make, upon pain of forfeiture of Five pounds for every omission of such view as aforesaid. And it is also Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That for the Encouragement of all Regular Printers, and support of the said Manufactures of this Commonwealth, That no person or persons whatsoever, shall from henceforth Import or bring in, or cause to be Imported or brought into this Commonwealth, from any part whatsoever, any English Bibles, Psalms, or any Book or Books, or part of Book or Books formerly printed in this Commonwealth; nor shall binde, stich, or put to sale, any such Book or Books, upon pain of loss and forfeiture of the same, and of Ten shillings for every Book so Imported, Bound, Stitched, or put to sale. And be it further Enacted, That no person or persons whatsoever in this Commonwealth, shall hereafter print or reprint, any Book, Books, or part of any Book or Books, Legally granted to the said Company of Stationers, for their Relief or Maintenance of their poor, Without the License and consent of the Master, Wardens and

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Assistants of the said Company; nor any Book or Books, or part of Book or Books, now entered in the Register Book of the said Company, or which hereafter shall be duly entered in the said Register Book, for any particular Member of the said Company, without the like consent of the Owner or Owners thereof; nor counterfeit the Name, Mark or Title of any Book or Books belonging to the said Company or particular Members; nor shall any person or persons binde, stich or put to sale any such book or books, upon pain of forfeiture of the same, and of Six shillings and eight pence for every book printed or stiched, bound or put to sale contrary hereunto: And for the better discovery of Malignant Booksellers, and others who make a Trade of vending, dispersing and sending to their Customers and Correspondents in the Countrey in Packets, by the Post, Carriers, and such like persons, divers unlicensed and other scandalous and seditious Books, Papers, Pamphlets and Pictures, to the great abuse of the Parliament, and prejudice of the People, Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That any two Magistrates intrusted with the Execution of this Act respectively, shall have power upon any just occasion of suspicion, to grant Warrants under their Hands and Seals, to some sufficient persons, to search Packs and Packets, and seize and bring away such Books, Papers and Pamphlets, to those who granted the said Warrants, to the end the penalties may be levied upon the Offenders, and disposed of according to the Tenor and true meaning of this present Act. And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all unlicensed Books and Pamphlets of News,
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and all seditious, scandalous and libellous Books, Pamphlets, Pictures and Papers, to be seized by vertue of this Act, shall after the condemnation of the Offender with whom they are taken, or to whom they belong (if the Offender may be discovered and known) be brought, conveyed or sent, and safely delivered to the Secretary to the Council of State, to be disposed of to the fire or otherwise, as that Council shall direct, and be in the mean time safely preserved by the Officers or persons who seize the same, or by those to whom they make delivery thereof, and give account of their Employment, according to the true meaning of this Act. And whereas divers vagrant persons, of idle conversation, having forsaken their usual Callings, and accustomed themselves after the maner of Hawkers, to sell and cry about the Streets and in other places, Pamphlets and other Books, and under colour thereof, are found to disperse all sorts of dangerous Libels, to the intolerable dishonor of the Parliament, and the whole Government of this Commonwealth; Be it Ordained and Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no such Hawkers shall be any more permitted; and that they and all Ballad singers, wheresoever they are or may be apprehended, shall forfeit all Books, Pamphlets, Ballads and Papers by them exposed to sale, and shall, by such as shall by vertue of this Act seize upon them, be conveyed and carried to the House of Correction, there to be whipt as Common Rogues, and then dismissed; the Keepers of which house are hereby enjoyned to receive such prisoners, and see this penalty executed, without expecting further Warrant; and where no such House of Correction

ction is, those who seize upon such Offenders, shall deliver them over to the Constable of the Parish or Liberty, where they are apprehended, who is forthwith to cause the Offenders to be whipt as Common Rogues, upon pain of forfeiture of Forty shillings, to be paid by such, Keepers of the House of Correction or Constable, omitting, neglecting or refusing to do their duty herein: The said Offences in this Clause mentioned to be examined, and the penalties levied, and to be disposed of in such sort and maner, as concerning the penalties of such as vend unlicensed and scandalous Books and Pamphlets, is herein before directed and expressed: And the Lord Mayor and Common Councel of the City of London, are hereby required to take care that the good Lawes of their City against Hawkers, and that this present Act against them and other Offenders, be put in full and speedy Execution within their City and Liberties thereof, as they tender the Honor thereof, and of Government: And all Constables, Headboroughs, and other Officers and Ministers are hereby enjoyned to seize upon such last mentioned Offenders wheresoever they may be found, and to cause the penalties of the Law to be upon them executed, upon the penalty last before mentioned. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That Whatsoever penalties in Money shall be levied and received by the pains, industry and prosecution of the Company of Stationers (whose vigilancy and care herein is especially required) shall be disposed of as followeth; viz. After satisfaction of their Charges in Inquiry and Prosecution, the one moyety of the residue shall be by them received and reserved for the use of the

the poor of their Company; and the other moiety, or one half, for the use of the Common-wealth, to be yearly by them answered, and paid into the receipt of the publique Exchequer: And the Justices of the Upper Bench, Justices of Oyer and Terminer, Within the limits of their Commission, Justices of Assize in their severall Circuits, Justices of Goal-Delivery, and Justices of Peace, as well Within the Liberties as Without, Within the limits of their severall Commissions in their General Sessions, or other Sessions, which they or any two or more of them (whereof one of them to be of the Quorum) may and shall appoint at their pleasure, Where and When need shall require, shall by vertue hereof have full power and authority, and are hereby strictly enjoyned to enquire, hear and determine all and every the Offences aforesaid, and to give in charge the Presentment of the same; and they and all other Officers and Ministers concerned, are hereby enjoyned and required to be careful and diligent in the discharge of their duty in the premises, according to the tenor and direction of this present Act: And all Officers, Civil and Military, Soldiers and other well affected people, are hereby specially enjoyned to be ayding and assisting to the Execution of this Act, and to seize upon the persons of all such as shall presume to rescue, or actually endeavor to rescue from apprehension or punishment of the Offenders against this Act, to cause such Countenancers and Disturbers to be immediately brought before some Justice of the Peace, who is to binde them by a Recognizance with good Sureties to the Good Behavior, and to appear at the next Sessions for the Peace, there to be Indicted;

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Fined, and further dealt With, according to
 Law, and as the quality of such High Con-
 tempts may deserve: And such said Offenders
 as are not able to finde Sureties, are to be
 caused to be set in the Stocks, near to the place
 where the Offence was committed, and to be
 Imprisoned there for the space of Four hours.
 And because the Life of all good Laws, is the
 due Execution thereof, and that the careful ob-
 servance of this Act, and a strice enquiry into,
 and punishment of Offenders against the same,
 will be of special concernment for the Peace and
 Safety of this Commonwealth, Be it further
 Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the
 Councel of State appointed by the Parlia-
 ment, shall hereby have power and Authority
 to enquire into, and from time to time to receive
 an accompt of all wilful defaults and con-
 tempts of Officers or others, who neglecting
 or refusing to do their duties, shall thereby ob-
 struct the Remedies provided by this Act; and
 are hereby enjoyned and required, by all good
 ways and means to remove such Obstructions,
 and out of the penalties or otherwise, to reward
 Prosecutors or Discoverers of Offenders, and
 to cause this Act to be put in full and effectual
 execution. And be it further Enacted by the
 Authority aforesaid, That in and upon any
 Action, Plaint or Suit to be brought against
 any Officer, or person or persons, for any thing
 by them acted or done by force of this present
 Act, every such Officer and person shall and
 may plead the General Issue thereto, and give
 this Act, and the whole spectral matter in Evi-
 dence; and if the Verdict pass against the
 Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or the Plaintiff or
 Plaintiffs become non-Suit, or suffer any Dis-
 continuance

continuance thereof, That then the Defendant and Defendants shall recover his and their double costs for their wrongful vexation in defence of the said Action or Suit, for which he and they shall have like remedy, as in other cases where Costs by the Laws of this Commonwealth are given to the Defendants: Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no person or persons shall be molested or impeached for any the Offences mentioned in this Act, unless he or they be thereof accused within Six Moneths after his or their Offence so committed or done. Prohibited also, That this Act be in force, and to have continuance until the Nine and twentieth day of September, which shall be in the year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred fifty and one, and no longer.

Passed the Twentieth of September, 1649.

An for the punishment of Crimes committed upon, or beyond the S E A S.

FOr the more convenient and speedy punishment of Crimes and Offences done and committed, and hereafter to be done and committed upon and beyond the Sea, The Parliament of England now assembled, do Enact and Declare, and be it Enacted and Declared by Authority of the same, That all such Treasons, Felonies, Piracies, Robberies, Murthers and Confederacies thereof, which have been at any time since the five and twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred forty six, committed, or hereafter shall be committed in or upon the Sea, or in any Haven, River, Creek or place, where the Admiral or Admirals had, have, or pretend

pretend to have Power, Authority or Jurisdiction; and all stealing, or taking, or treacherous carrying away of any Ship, Barque or Boat, Ordnance or Ammunition (appointed for the publique Service of the State, or for any private benefit of the Owners) from such places and imployment, and without lawful Warrant and Authority from the publique State, or such private persons respectively thereto first had and obtained; And all Murthers and Manslaughters committed by any of the Natural Leiges of this Nation, upon or against any of the good people of the same in any the Foreign parts wheresoever (upon any matter, cause or occasion originally beginning within this Land, during such time as such persons had their abode within the same) shall be henceforth enquirable, triable and determinable before the Judges and Justices of Oyer and Terminer, and of Goal-Delivery in the severall and respective Shires and Limits of their Commissions, where any such Offenders shall be found: And the said Judges and Justices by vertue hereof, and of the severall Commissions of Oyer, Terminer, and Goal-Delivery to them directed, shall give the same in charge at such time as they shall hold their Sessions by vertue of such Commissions; And shall have full Power and Authority to enquire of all the Crimes and Offences aforesaid, and of every of them, by the Oathes of twelve good and lawful men, Inhabitants in the Shire limited in their Commission, in such like manner and form, as if such Crimes and Offences had been committed upon the Land within the same Shire. And if any person or persons (not formerly disposed of, or otherwise ordered by the

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Parliament or the Councel of State) shall be Indicted for such Crime, Offence or Offences done, or hereafter to be done upon the Seas, or in any other place above limited, That then such Order, Process and maner of Proceedings shall be used, had, made and done, to and against such person and persons so being Indicted, as is used by the course of the Law of this Land, and as if the said Crime and Offence, or Crimes and Offences had been committed or done upon the Land; and that the tryal of all and every the Crimes and Offences before mentioned in this Act, if the Offence be denyed by the Offender or Offenders, shall be had by twelve lawful men inhabiting in the Shire or Shires limited within such Commission or Commissions, which shall be directed as aforesaid; and no Challenge or Challenges to be had for the hundred: and such person or persons so found guilty of any Crime or Crimes aforesaid, by Verdict, Confession or Process, shall without allowance of benefit of Clergy, suffer such punishment by pains of Death, and loss of Lands and Goods, as in other cases of Treason, Murder, Manslaughter, Robbery, or other Felony done upon the Land is used. And for the better bringing of such persons to due punishment, Be it Enacted, and by Authority of this present Parliament it is further Enacted, That as often as any person or persons suspected to be guilty of the Crime or Crimes, and Offences aforesaid, shall be brought before any Justice or Justices of the Peace, or other Chief Officer or Officers of such Place or County, the said Justice and Justices, Chief Officer or Officers shall take Examinations of witnesses in writing upon Oath (which hereby they are

pretend to have Power, Authority or Jurisdiction; and all stealing, or taking, or treacherous carrying away of any Ship, Barque or Boat, Ordnance or Ammunition (appointed for the publique Service of the State, or for any private benefit of the Owners) from such places and imploiment, and without lawful Warrant and Authority from the publique State, or such private persons respectively thereto first had and obtained; And all Murthers and Manslaughters committed by any of the Natural Leiges of this Nation, upon or against any of the good people of the same in any the Foreign parts wheresoever (upon any matter, cause or occasion originally beginning within this Land, during such time as such persons had their abode within the same) shall be henceforth enquirable, triable and determinable before the Judges and Justices of Oyer and Terminer, and of Goal-Delivery in the severall and respective Shires and Limits of their Commissions, where any such Offenders shall be found: And the said Judges and Justices by vertue hereof, and of the severall Commissions of Oyer, Terminer, and Goal-Delivery to them directed, shall give the same in charge at such time as they shall hold their Sessions by vertue of such Commissions; And shall have full Power and Authority to enquire of all the Crimes and Offences aforesaid, and of every of them, by the Oathes of twelve good and lawful men, Inhabitants in the Shire limited in their Commission, in such like manner and form, as if such Crimes and Offences had been committed upon the Land within the same Shire. And if any person or persons (not formerly disposed of, or otherwise ordered by the Parlia-

Parliament or the Council of State) shall be Indicted for such Crime, Offence or Offences done, or hereafter to be done upon the Seas, or in any other place above limited, That then such Order, Process and manner of Proceedings shall be used, had, made and done, to and against such person and persons so being Indicted, as is used by the course of the Law of this Land, and as if the said Crime and Offence, or Crimes and Offences had been committed or done upon the Land; and that the tryal of all and every the Crimes and Offences before mentioned in this Act, if the Offence be denyed by the Offender or Offenders, shall be had by twelve lawful men inhabiting in the Shire or Shires limited within such Commission or Commissions, which shall be directed as aforesaid; and no Challenge or Challenges to be had for the hundred: and such person or persons so found guilty of any Crime or Crimes aforesaid, by Verdict, Confession or Process, shall without allowance of benefit of Clergy, suffer such punishment by pains of Death, and loss of Lands and Goods, as in other cases of Treason, Murder, Manslaughter, Robbery, or other Felony done upon the Land is used. And for the better bringing of such persons to due punishment, Be it Enacted, and by Authority of this present Parliament it is further Enacted, That as often as any person or persons suspected to be guilty of the Crime or Crimes, and Offences aforesaid, shall be brought before any Justice or Justices of the Peace, or other Chief Officer or Officers of such Place or County, the said Justice and Justices, Chief Officer or Officers shall take Examinations of witnesses in Writing upon Oath (which hereby they are

and shall be enabled to Administer) and Information of all or so many of the principal persons that shall be so brought before them by Warrant of the said Justice or Justices, Officer or Officers or otherwise, and of such persons as shall bring such Offender or Offenders before them, as he or they shall think meet and convenient, to discover the particular matter or matters in Fact; and after such Examinations and Informations had and made, shall commit the said Offender or Offenders in safe Custody to the Goal of the said place or County, if he or they shall see just cause; and shall send a Transcript of all the said Examinations and Informations so taken, under his or their Hand and Seal, inclosed under Seal to the Council of State, who are hereby authorized and enabled to dispose of the said offender or offenders, or so many of them as they shall think meet, & send their directions concerning the same unto the Justices or Chief Officers of the place aforesaid, who are hereby likewise authorized and enjoined to conform themselves unto such Directions; and to send such Offender or Offenders, not otherwise disposed of as aforesaid, unto the next Sessions of Goal-Delivery, or Oyer and Terminer for the Shire, to be proceeded against according to his or their Crime or Crimes: And for the maintenance of such person or persons so taken and Imprisoned as aforesaid, or so many of them as are not able to maintain him or themselves, during his or their Imprisonment, It is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That he or they shall be maintained as other prisoners not able to maintain themselves, at the charge of such Shire where they are in Prison, by allowance out

out of the publique Treasury of that Shire, for the prisoners of the Upper-Bench and Marshalsey; and the said Allowance shall be made by the Justices of the Peace at their Quarter-Sessions to be holden for the said Shire. And it is further Enacted and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That in all cases where such person or persons shall be committed to safe Custody as aforesaid, the Keepers of the respective Goals or Prisons shall receive such person or persons to them committed, and them hold in safe Custody, and shall not suffer them to go at large, unless they shall be discharged from Imprisonment by the Order and Direction of the Parliament or Council of State, or legal tryal as aforesaid: And in case the Keeper or Keepers of such respective Goals, shall suffer such persons after such commitment to make any escape, in such manner that they shall not have such persons before the said Judges or Justices at the next Sessions of Goal-Delivery, or Oyer and Terminer for the Shire, the said Keepers of such Goal or Goals shall be proceeded against by Indictment, and suffer punishment, as in other cases of Escapes of Felons by the Law they ought to suffer. And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in all cases aforesaid, Commissions of Oyer and Terminer shall be issued forth by the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal, so often as by the Council of State shall be thought meet, and according to their Directions, as touching the places and limits of such Commissions.

Passed the Twentieth of September, 1649.

An Act for Subscribing the ENGAGEMENT.

Whereas divers disaffected persons, do by sundry ways and means oppose and endeavor to undermine the Peace of the Nation under this present Government, so that unless special care be taken, a new War is likely to break forth: For the preventing whereof, and also for the better uniting of this Nation, as well against all Invasions from abroad, as the Common Enemy at home; and to the end that those which receive benefit and protection from this present Government, may give assurance of their living quietly and peaceably under the same, and that they will neither directly nor indirectly contrive or practice any thing to the disturbance thereof, The Parliament now assembled do Enact and Ordain, and be it by Authority of this present Parliament Enacted and Ordained, That all men whatsoever within the Commonwealth of England, of the age of Eighteen years and upwards, shall as is hereafter in this present Act directed, take and subscribe this Engagement following; viz.

I Do declare and promise, That I will be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of *England*, as it is now Established, without a King or House of Lords.

And for the due taking and subscribing thereof, Be it further Enacted by Authority aforesaid, that all and every person or persons that now hath, or hereafter shall have, hold or enjoy any Place or Office of Trust or Profit, or any Place or Imployment of Publique Trust

Trust whatsoever, within the said Common-wealth; or that do receive or take any benefit or profit by, from or out of any such Office or Place of Trust or Imployment, that hath not formerly taken the said Engagement, by vertue of any Order or Direction of Parliament, shall take and subscribe the said Engagement, at or before the Twentieth day of February, in the year One thousand six hundred forty and nine, before the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal of England, or before any two or more such persons as the said Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal shall appoint thereunto, or before any two or more Justices of the Peace within any County, City or Town Corporate respectively, where such person or persons, so taking and subscribing the said Engagement, do or shall reside or dwell; which said Engagement the said Lords Commissioners, Justices of the Peace, and persons abovesaid, are hereby authorized to give and administer unto all and every such person or persons that hath, or hereafter shall have, hold or enjoy any Place or Office of Trust or Profit, or any Place or Imployment of publique Trust whatsoever as abovesaid; and the said Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal of England, or such as they shall nominate or appoint, and the said Justices of Peace as abovesaid, shall and are hereby required to certifie in Writing under their Hands and Seals the said Engagement, and the Names of the persons abovesaid, so taking and subscribing the same before them respectively, and the time of their taking and subscribing the same, unto the Clerk of the Parliament for the time being. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That all and every

ry person or persons which now hath, or hereafter shall have, hold or enjoy any such Office, Place, Employment, Benefit or Profits as abovesaid, that before the Twentieth day of February, which shall be in the year One thousand six hundred forty and nine, shall not take and subscribe the said Engagement as aforesaid; or that after the said Twentieth day of February, in the year One thousand six hundred forty and nine, shall have, hold or enjoy any such Office, Place, Employment, Benefit or Profits as abovesaid, and shall not take and subscribe the said Engagement as abovesaid, before they do or shall take upon them, or execute by themselves, or by their Deputies, any such Office, Place or Employment, or receive and take such benefit and profit as abovesaid, shall forfeit all such Offices, Places, Employments as abovesaid, and are hereby declared to be disabled to have, hold or enjoy the same, and to forfeit double the value of all such profits and benefits as they shall receive and take as abovesaid; the said Forfeitures to be levied by the Committee of Indemnity, by distress and sale of the Offenders goods respectively, or by Imprisonment of the persons so offending as abovesaid, until the said Forfeitures be duly paid and satisfied; which said Forfeitures shall be disposed of by the said Committee, one moiety to the Informer or persons complaining, the other moiety to the Treasurers for Wounded and maimed Soldiers and Mariners, in such County, City or Town Corporate, where such persons so offending do or shall reside or dwell; And the said Committee of Indemnity are hereby authorized to hear and determine the same;

same, and to examine upon Oath, and otherwise to proceed, according as in cases of Delinquent Officers they are directed and enjoined by Parliament. And it is further Enacted and Declared, That all and every person or persons that expects benefit from the Courts of Justice in this Commonwealth, and that either now are, or hereafter shall be Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Demandant or Demandants in any Suit, Plaint, Bill, Action, Information, Writ, Demand, Execution, or any other Process whatsoever, in any of the Courts of Chancery, the Upper Bench, Common Pleas, Publique Exchequer, Dutchy Court, or in any other Court of Record, or in any other Court in any County, City, Town Corporate, or in any place of Priviledge, or any other place whatsoever, within the Commonwealth of England, or before any Judge or Judges, or other person or persons that have, or claim to have cognizance of any manner of Pleas, or before any Commissioner or Commissioners under the Great Seal of England, or by any other lawful Authority, or before any person or persons as Committees or Commissioners, or otherwise authorized by Authority of Parliament, shall take and subscribe, and are hereby required to take and subscribe the aforesaid Engagement, as in this present Act is directed and appointed; and that it shall and may be lawful for all and every person or persons that are or shall be Defendant or Defendants, or that are or shall be Sued, Impleaded, Attached, Arrested, Sequestered or Complained against in any such Courts as abovesaid, or before any the said Judges, Commissioners or persons abovesaid, by themselves, or by some others on his

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or their behalf, from and after the Twentieth of April, in the year One thousand six hundred and fifty, to Plead, Aver, or to move in Arrest of Judgement, or to move for a Superedeas, or stopping further Proceedings in such Suits, Plaints, Bills, Actions, Informations, Writs, Demands or Execution, or any other Process whatsoever as abovesaid; That the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Demandant or Demandants, person or persons complaining, or any of them, in such Suit, Plaint, Bill, Action, Information, Writ, Demand, Execution, or other proces whatsoever as abovesaid, have not taken and subscribed the said Engagement as above is directed and appointed; and thereupon all and every the Judges of such Courts, and persons as abovesaid, before whom such Suits, Plaints, Bills, Actions, Complaints, Informations, Writs, Demands, Executions, or other proces is or shall be depending, shall and may, and are hereby authorized and required to admit such Plea or Averment, in stop of all or any such Suits, Plaints, Bills, Actions, Informations, Writs, Demands, or other proces as abovesaid; and all such Pleas, Averments, or such motions in Arrest of Judgement, or in supereding or stopping further proceedings as abovesaid, and to hear and determine the same, and to stop all further proceedings in all such Suits, Plaints, Bills, Actions, Informations, Writs, Demands, Executions, or other proces as abovesaid, until it shall duly appear to the said Judges, Commissioners and persons abovesaid respectively, That the said Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Demandant or Demandants, or persons Complaining have or shall Subscribe the said Engagement.

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And it is further Enacted and Declared, That for the better tryal of the matter of Fact, whether such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Demandant or Demandants, or any of them have subscribed the said Engagement or no, It shall and may be lawful for all and every such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Demandant or Demandants, or persons Complaining as abovesaid, or any of them, in open Court where such Suit is depending, or in presence of one or more of the Judges of the said Courts respectively, or in the presence of one or more of the said Commissioners and persons as abovesaid, before whom such Suits, Plaints, Bills, Actions, Informations, Writs, Demands, Executions or other proces is or shall be depending, to subscribe the said Engagement, or to produce, or cause to be produced, a Certificate under the Hands and Seals of any two Justices of the Peace, Commissioners for the Honethly Assessments, Mayors or Chief Officers of any City or Town-Corporate where such person doth reside, inhabit or dwell, That the said Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Demandant or Demandants, or any of them have subscribed the said Engagement before them, and in their presence, and certify the said Engagement, and true Copy of the said Engagement and Subscription thereunto, unto the said Court, Judges, Commissioners and persons as abovesaid respectively, before whom such Suits, Plaints, Bills, Informations, Writs, Demands, Executions or other proces is or shall be depending, and from and after such Subscriptions of the said Engagement in Court, or before the Judges, Commissioners, Justices of the Peace, Mayors or chief Officers or persons

sons as abovesaid respectively, and the same entred upon Record in such Court or Courts, or before such Judges, Commissioners or persons as abovesaid, and not otherwise, It shall and may be lawful for all such Judges, Commissioners and other persons as abovesaid, before whom such Suits, Plaints, Bills, Actions, Informations, Writs, Demands, Executions or other proces is or shall be depending, to proceed according to Law, as if no such Plea or Averment had been made. And it is hereby further Enacted, That all Justices of the Peace, Commissioners for the Monethly Assessments in the severall counties respectively, and all Majors, Bayliffs, and other the chief Officers in all Cities and Towns Corporate respectively, or any two of them within their respective Counties, Cities & Towns Corporate, shall and may, and are hereby authorized and required from time to time to receive and take Subscriptions thereunto, from all such persons of the Age of Eighteen years and upwards, that reside, live and inhabit within the said Counties, Cities and Towns Corporate respectively, as shall and will Subscribe the same; and all such Engagements and Subscriptions so taken and subscribed, within one Moneth after such taking and Subscription, from time to time to certifie to the High Sheriff of the said Counties respectively; who is hereby required and authorized to enter in a Book the said Engagement, and the Names of all such persons as have subscribed, or shall Subscribe the same, and the persons before whom, and the time when such Engagement and Subscriptions were so had and taken; and the said Book, at the going out of his Office, or oftner,

oftner, if he be thereunto required by the Parliament or Council of State, send or deliver, or cause to be sent or delivered unto the Clerk of the Parliament for the time being. Provided, That this Act, or any thing herein contained, shall not extend to any Merchant that doth or shall reside or inhabit beyond the Seas, that in the Court of Admiralty, or in any other Court, doth or shall sue for any Goods or Merchandizes by him Imported, brought or shipped into some Port or Harbor of this Commonwealth, or such Goods and Merchandizes of such Merchants residing beyond the Seas, to be Transported out of this Commonwealth, into any Foreign Nation or Kingdom, or to any person or persons residing beyond the Seas, Owners of any Ship, Boat or Vessel, that doth or shall sue for such Ship, Boat or Vessel, or for Freight or Goods belonging to such Vessel, or for any Freight, Mariners Wages due for the Hire or Freight of such Ship, Boat or Vessel, due to such persons as do or shall live, inhabit and reside beyond the Seas as abovesaid. Provided always, and it is further Enacted, That this Act, or any thing therein contained, shall not extend unto any person or persons that are or shall be Indicted, Arraigned, Arrested, Attached, Imprisoned, Complained against or Molested for Treason, Felony, Breach of the Peace, or the Good Behavior; but that the Judge and Judges, Justice and Justices, Commissioner and Commissioners before Whom such person or persons are or shall be Indicted, Arraigned, Arrested, Attached, Imprisoned, complained against or molested, shall and may proceed, notwithstanding any such Plea or Abatement as abovesaid. And it
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is further Enacted and Provided, That this Act, or any thing therein contained, shall not extend unto any person or persons, that is or shall be sued in any Courts abovesaid, or before any Judges or Commissioners abovesaid, that after Issue joyned, and at the time of Tryal of such Issue, shall then aver and plead, That the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or persons demanding abovesaid, hath not taken the said Engagement, but that the Judge and Judges, Commissioner and Commissioners, and persons abovesaid shall and may proceed to the Tryal of the said Issue, as if no such Plea or Averment had been made.

Passed the Second of January, 1649.

An Act for giving a further time for Subscribing the
ENGAGEMENT.

Whereas by an Act of this present Parliament, Entituled, An Act for Subscribing the Engagement, It is amongst other things provided, That all and every person and persons, that held or enjoyed any place or Office of Trust or profit, or any place or employment of publique Trust whatsoever within this Commonwealth; or that did receive or take any benefit or profit by, from or out of any such Office or place of Trust or Employment, shall take and Subscribe the said Engagement, at or before the Twentieth day of February, One thousand six hundred forty nine, under the penalties and forfeitures in the said Act limited; Be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and the Authority of the same, That every such person and persons that held or enjoyed any such

such place or Office or Trust or profit, or any place or imployment of publique Trust as aforesaid; or that did receive or take any benefit or profit, by, from or out of any such Office or place of Trust or Imployment, and shall take and Subscribe the said Engagement, at or before the Twentieth day of March, One thousand six hundred forty and nine, shall not incur any penalties or forfeitures in the said Act mentioned; The said Act, or any thing therein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Lord Mayor of the City of London, within the said City and the Liberties thereof, and all and every the Aldermen of the said City, within their several and respective wards, shall have full power and authority to receive and take the subscription of any person or persons that shall take and subscribe the said Engagement. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Lords Commissioners for the Great Seal of England, and all and every other person and persons authorized by the forementioned Act to take the Subscriptions to the said Engagement of such person and persons at or before the said twentieth day of February, Be authorized, and have hereby full power and authority to give and administer the said Engagement to all and every such person and persons as shall take and subscribe the same, at or before the said twentieth day of March aforesaid, and shall make Returns thereof on or by the tenth day of April following, in such manner as by the said Act they were required to do, by the time formerly limited for subscribing the same.

Passed the Three and twentieth of *February*, 1649.

An Act for removing all Papists, and all Officers and Soldiers of Fortune, and divers other Delinquents from *London* and *Westminster*, and confining them within five miles of their dwellings; and for encouragement of such as discover Priests and Jesuits, and their Receivers and Abettors.

The Parliament of England taking notice of the great confluence and resort of Papists, Officers and Soldiers of Fortune, and other disaffected persons (who have borne Arms against them, and adhered to the Enemy in the late Wars) unto the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and other the parts adjacent; and having certain Information of many Designs now in hand, endeavored to be carried on by Correspondencies with the Son to the late Tyrant, his Agents and Complices, and by the Conspiracies of old and new Malignants, in favor of his pretences against the Commonwealth and present Government; the subtle Contrivers of which Plots may for the effecting of the same, probably and with much ease make use of such dangerous and discontented persons now in and about the said Cities, if suffered there to remain, Do for the prevention of such inconveniences and disturbances as may thereby arise, Think fit to Order and Ordain, and be it by their Authority Enacted and Ordained, That all Papists whatsoever, and all Officers and Soldiers of Fortune, and other persons who have borne Arms against the Parliament, or have adhered unto, or willingly assisted their Enemies in the late War, being not under restraint, and not hereafter excepted, shall at or before the Twentieth day of March, One thousand six hundred forty nine (or if then under restraint, within five days after their respective Enlargement) depart out of the said Cities of
London

London and Westminster, and late Lines of Communication, and all other places within twenty miles of the said late Lines : And if any such person shall continue within the said late Lines, or the said distance of Twenty miles from the said Lines, after the said Twentieth day of March, or if then under restraint, shall continue within the distance aforesaid, above five days after his or their Enlargement, such persons shall be Apprehended and Imprisoned without Bail or Mainprize, until such of them as shall be thought fit to be Bailed, pay all charges of their Apprehension and Imprisonment, and give good Security for their departure as aforesaid, within five days after their Enlargement, and not to return within the time limited by this Act ; and the manner of taking the said Security is hereby referred to the care and direction of the Council of State, who are also authorized and required to cause such of the said Prisoners as have not yet compounded for their Delinquencies, and whom they judge dangerous and fit to be made examples of Justice, to be proceeded and dealt with according to their demerits. And for the better execution of this Act, It is further Ordained and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That the Lord Mayor of the City of London, and all Justices of the Peace within the said City and late Lines of Communication, and of the several Counties of Middlesex, Hertford, Essex, Kent and Surrey ; and the respective Committees and Commissioners for the Militia within the said City and Liberties, the City of Westminster, Borough of Southwark, Hamlets of the Tower and Suburbs, or any two or more of them in their respective Liberties and Jurisdictions, shall

shall and may, and are hereby authorized and required to cause strict wards and watches to be kept, and to make frequent searches for, and apprehend, or cause to be apprehended, all Papists and other such Delinquents as aforesaid, which shall be found within the distance aforesaid, after the said twentieth day of March; and all such persons so apprehended and taken, and brought before them or any two of them as aforesaid, to examine, or cause to be examined before one or more Justice of the Peace of the Liberty where the Apprehension is; who is also to take Depositions upon Oath against the said Parties, and to commit them over to some common Goal or Prison, and bind over Prosecutors and Witnesses to appear, prosecute and testify at the next General Sessions or Goal-delivery for the place; and of their doings therein, shall under their Hands and Seals in Writing forthwith acquaint the Council of State, to the end the Offenders may be dealt with according to Law and Justice, and according to the Directions before mentioned: And all Sheriffs, Bayliffs, Constables; and all Captains of Guards, Officers and Soldiers, and other the good People of this Commonwealth, are required to be ayding to the said Justices of Peace, Committees and Commissioners, their Agents, Officers and Ministers, in the execution of this Act; and in case any Goaler, Constable, or other Officer to whom any the persons aforesaid shall be committed, shall permit such person or persons to go at liberty, without the special Warrant or discharge of the Magistrate by whom they were committed, or other sufficient Authority in that behalf, that the same shall be taken and adjudged an Escape,

Escape, and the Offender shall be proceeded against as for an Escape according to Law. And for the better discovery, prevention and avoiding of such Trayterous and dangerous conspiracies as are daily devised and plotted against the Safety of the Parliament and this Commonwealth, by such Papists and ill-affected persons as aforesaid, who taking liberty to convene together, and without restraint wandring and shifting from place to place, become Spyes and Intelligencers for the Common Enemy, continue personal Correspondencies each with other, and gather thereby the more strength and opportunity to corrupt and seduce the good people of this Commonwealth, and to form, contrive and effect their said ill Designs, whereof of late years there hath been sad experience; Be it Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That all the said persons appointed to depart as aforesaid, shall from and after the First day of October, One thousand six hundred and fiftty (and all other Papists and other adherents to the Enemies in the late wars, shall at or before the Twentieth day of March, One thousand six hundred forty nine, if they be within this Commonwealth not authorized to stay as aforesaid, and not restrained or stayed, either by Imprisonment, or by such sickness and infirmity of Body as they shall not be able to travel without imminent danger of life; And in such cases of absence out of the Land, restraint or stay, or being authorized as aforesaid, then within twenty days next after they shall return into the Land, and be enlarged from such Imprisonment or restraint, and shall be able to travel, or after their said authorized time of stay determined) repair to the place of Dwelling

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Where they usually heretofore made their common abode; or not having any certain abode, shall repair to the place where such person was born, or where the father or mother of such person shall then be dwelling, and give such notice of their coming as is afterwards expressed; and shall not at any time after pass or remove above five miles from thence, upon pain of Imprisonment, and Sequestration of all their Estates Real and Personal, as in case of Delinquency, to be inflicted upon them by the Committee or Commissioners for Sequestration where they shall respectively be, or their Estates lie, and such other proceedings to be had with and against them, as is usual in other cases of Sequestration for Delinquency. Provided always, and it is Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all such persons who are to make their repair, and not to remove above five Miles as aforesaid, shall within Twenty days after their coming to any of the said places (as the case shall happen) notify their coming thither, and present themselves, and deliver their true Names in Writing to the Minister of the Parish, and to the Constable, Headborough, or Tythingman of the Town, who shall thereupon presently enter the same into a Book to be kept in every Parish for that purpose; and the said Minister, Constable, Headborough, or Tythingman, shall certify the same in Writing to the Justices of the Peace of the same county, at the next General or Quarter Sessions to be held in the same county; and the said Justices shall cause the same to be Entered by the Clerk of the Peace in the Rolls of the same Sessions, upon pain of Forfeiture of Five pounds for every default of not presenting or entering

entring as aforesaid, to be levied upon the Goods of the Defaulter for the use of the Poor, and maimed Soldiers of the county, by Warrant from the Justices of Assize or Circuit, or Justices of Peace at their Quarter Sessions; Who are hereby Authorized and Required within their several Limits respectively, to enquire of, and punish the said Defaults. And to the end the Commonwealth be not pestred and overcharged with the multitude of such seditious and dangerous people as is aforesaid, who having little or no ability to answer or satisfie any competent penalty for their disobedience and contempt of the Laws, and being committed to prison, do live for the most part in better case there, then if they were at liberty, or are otherwise overchargable to be kept; Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any such person so confined as aforesaid, not having Lands, Tenements, Rents or Annuities of an absolute Estate of Inheritance or Freehold, of the clear yearly value of Twenty Marks above all Charges, to their own use or behoof; or Goods and Chattels in their own right, and to their own proper use and behoof, above the value of One hundred pounds, shall not within the time before in this Act, in that behalf limited and appointed, repair to their place of usual dwelling and abode, if they have any, or else to the place where they were born, or where their Father or Mother shall be dwelling, and give such notification of their coming and being, as is before limited and directed, shall upon his Oath abjure this Commonwealth; or if such Offender shall refuse to abjure, or not go to the Haven or Port to be appointed, or after departure return into this
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Commonwealth, Without License of the Parliament, the said Oath and Abjuration, Entering and Recording thereof, to be in such manner and form as is in like case prescribed by the Statute made in the five and thirtieth year of the late Queen Elizabeth, for confining of Popish Reculants; That then in every such case the person so offending shall be adjudged a Felon, and shall suffer and lose as in case of Felony, Without benefit of Clergy. Provided nevertheless, and the Council of State are hereby authorized to dispose of any such persons last mentioned, before Abjuration, for the service and benefit of Foreign Plantations, in such sort as to them shall seem meet; in which case the Abjuration shall be forborn. And it is further provided, Ordained and Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any of the persons confined as is aforesaid, shall be urged by Proces Without Fraud or Covin, or be bound Without Fraud or Covin to appear in any of the Courts of Justice of this Commonwealth; or shall have other necessary occasion or business to go and travel out of the compass of the said Five Miles, That then and in every such case, upon License in Writing under the Hands and Seals of Four of the Justices of the Peace of the County, Limit or Division, or place next adjoyning to the place of abode of the said confined party; in every of which Licenses shall be specified and contained both the particular cause of the said License, and the time how long the said party licensed shall be absent, in travelling, attending and returning, It shall and may be lawful for such licensed person to go and travel about such their necessary business, and for such time onely for their travelling, attend-

attending and returning, as shall be comprised in the said License, so as the said party so licensed first take the Engagement, of being true and faithful to the Common Wealth, as it is now Established, without a King or House of Lords; and also take his or their corporal Oath before the said four Justices of the Peace, or any of them (who shall have Authority by virtue of this Act to minister the same) that he or she hath truly informed them of the cause of his or their Journey, and shall not make any causeless stays: And the Council of State shall have like power to grant such Licenses upon like occasions, and all and every other Licenses shall be utterly void and of none effect. Provided, That no person, who by the Laws of this Commonwealth may be questioned for Treason, Felony, Breach of Peace, or any other Crime, or for any Civil cause, shall be hereby exempted from any Legal Prosecution; but that every such person may be prosecuted and dealt withal according to his merit; and according to Law and Justice in that behalf; This Act, or any thing therein contained in any wise to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided, That nothing in this Act shall extend to such Delinquents aforesaid, who having their usual Habitations within the late Lines of Communication, or within the said space of Twenty miles, have made their Compositions, and paid in or secured their Fines; or whose Delinquencies have been pardoned by the Parliament, not having acted any thing against it since that time, so as such persons give in a Note of their Names and places of residence to such persons, and in such manner, and upon such penalties to

be presented and Recorded, as is in like case before limited, before the Twentieth of March, One thousand six hundred forty nine; and so as they procure a true Certificate in Writing of their taking the Engagement, To be true and faithfull to the Commonwealth of England, as the same is now established, Without a King or House of Lords, to be Entred and Recorded as is before mentioned, or to such as shall be authorized by the Parliament or Councel of State; or being really attending their Compositions at Goldsmiths hall, shall be permitted by the Commissioners for such Compositions to continue within the said late Lines, for and during the perfecting of their Compositions onely, such parties entring their Engagements before the said Commissioners, To be true and faithfull to this Commonwealth, as the same is now established, Without a King or House of Lords; and giving a Note also to the said Commissioners of the places of their abode, whilst they are attending their said Compositions; which Commissioners are to make due entry of the same in their Books: And all persons whatsoever mentioned or concerned in this Act, are to take notice of the same, and to conform thereunto respectively. And for that it is well known that there are many Priests and Jesuits, who are Traytors by the Law, come over from beyond the Seas, acting the part of Incendiaries here; and lurking to do mischief; It is further Enacted and Declared, That like reward shall be given to those who shall discover such persons after the conviction of them, or shall discover their knowing Recetvers and Abettors, as is by a late Act conferred and Ordained for the
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Apprehenders of Highway-men, which each Sheriff where the Tryall and Conviction is, shall duly pay to the Discoverer, and have the same allowed unto him upon his Accompts; and the Barons of the Exchequer are required to make allowance of the same: And all Judges of the Law, and Justices of the Peace, are required in their severall Circuits and Sessions to give in charge, and take enquiry and accompt of the due execution of this Act; and all other Ministers of Law and Justice, are also upon all occasions within their respective Limits, to do their duties in and concerning the same. And it is lastly Ordered, That this Act be forthwith Printed, and Published by sound of Trumpet and beat of Drum, at all usual places within the said Cities, and late Lines of Communication, in such sort as the Council of State shall appoint, who are authorized and required to cause the same to be executed accordingly; and to send this Act to the Sheriffs of the severall Counties within this Common-wealth, who are to publish the same solemnly at the two next County Courts after their respective receipt thereof. And this Act is to have continuance and be in force until the Twentieth day of March, which shall be in the year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred and fifty, and no longer.

Passed the Twenty sixth of February, 1649.

An Act for Redress of Delays and Mischiefs arising by Writs of Error in several Cases.

FOrasmuch as very great Delays, Vexations and Oppressions have been and still are

are occasioned to the People of this Nation, by staying Executions by Writts of Error, after Verdict and Judgement thereupon obtained; For remedy thereof, Be it Enacted and Ordained, That from and after the first day of May, which shall be in the year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred and fifty, No Execution shall be stayed or Superseaded in any Court of Record, by any writ or writts of Error, after Verdict and Judgement thereupon obtained. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That all and every Superseadas granted and awarded before the said first day of May, upon any such writ or writts of Error now depending, shall within ten days after the beginning of the Term commonly called Trinity Term, which shall be in the said year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred and fifty, be discontinued and void; and every person or persons shall have liberty to proceed upon his or their Judgements, and take forth Execution, Any writ or writts of Error or Superseadas notwithstanding. And be it further Enacted, That no Judgement shall at any time or times after the said first of May, be arrested or stayed in any Court of Record, for want of any matter of Form, or other defect whatsoever, except onely for want of matter of substance, which shall be found or shewed publicquely to the Judge or Judges sitting in the said Court or Courts of Record, to be in the Declaration, Plea, Replication, or other proceedings after Apparance. And be it also Enacted, That what person or persons soever shall prosecute any writ or writts of Error to reverse a Judgement after Verdict, which Judgement shall be afterwards affirmed, that every such person or persons

persons shall pay unto the Defendant in the said writ of Error, double Costs, to be assessed by the same Court where the writ of Error was depending. Provided always, That this Act, nor any thing therein contained, shall not extend to any Action popular, or other Action which now is, or hereafter shall be brought upon any penal Statute; nor to any Indictment, Presentment, Inquisition, Information or Appeal. Provided, That this Act shall continue for Three years, from the first day of May, One thousand six hundred and fifty.

Passed the Eleventh of *March*, 1649.

An Act for the better packing of Butter, and Redress of Abuses therein.

Whereas great complaint hath been made by the Freemen of the City of London, Traders in Butter and Cheese, of many abuses committed in the sale of those Commodities, through the covetous and fraudulent dealing of the Countrey Farmers selling by Stones, Iron Wedges, pieces of Brick, and other unwarranted Weights, contrary to Law, and to the great deceit of the Buyer: And Whereas the Firkin of Butter hath heretofore time out of minde used to weigh Sixty four pounds (viz.) of Butter Fifty six pound, and Cask Eight pounds; and the pot of Butter to weigh Twenty pounds (viz.) The pot six pounds, and the Butter Fourteen pounds; Now of late years, through the indirect dealing of the said Farmers and Packers of Butter, their Firkins of Butter are made to weigh but Sixty two pounds, Sixty

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pound, and some but Fifty eight pound, and the Cask seldom less then ten pound or twelve pound, and sometimes Thirteen or fourteen pound weight; and their Pots are made generally to weigh Seven pound, and some of them Eight pounds, or Nine pounds weight: And whereas also many other great abuses are by the said Farmers and Packers committed, in putting up of Whay Butter, and that which is corrupt, with good Cream Butter, to the spoiling of the good Butter, and to the great damage, not onely of the said Tradersmen, but of all sorts of people that buy and spend the same: And whereas by former Laws and Statutes full remedy is not herein provided; The Parliament taking the premises into serious consideration, and willing to give redress against such abuses, for reformation of the same, and prevention of the like for time to come, have thought fit to Enact and Ordain, and be it by their Authority Declared, Enacted and Ordained, That the weighings by Stones, Wedges, Bricks, and other unwarrantable weights shall be utterly left, not in any sort to be hereafter used; and that the said Commodities shall be from henceforth sold and weighed with weights Sealed, according to the Standard; and that all and every person and persons which shall do and offend against the same, shall forfeit the value of the said Commodity, and the party endamaged shall upon his complaint be recompenced quadruple to his damage, as in like case is provided in the Statute made in the Twenty seventh year of King Edward the third, for the establishing of one weight, measure and yard throughout the Realm: And be it also Ordained and Enacted by the Authority

rity aforesaid, That the Farmer, and all others packing up Butter in Firkins for sale, do from henceforth set upon the Firkin, When the same is seasoned, a visible mark of the just weight of the Tare of the said Firkin; and not put up less then Fifty six pound of neat Butter in every Firkin, nor less then Fourteen pound of neat Butter in each Pot, as anciently hath been accustomed; nor to false pack up their Butter (viz.) old Butter with new, or whay or corrupt Butter with Cream Butter: And likewise every Farmer and Packer of Butter into Firkins, upon the sale thereof, do henceforth set the two first Letters of his name, or his own particular Mark upon such Firkins, to the intent that if any fraud be, the same may the better be discovered and punished. And be it further Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That every Farmer and Packer up of Butter, not putting up in each Firkin or Pot respectively, such quantities as aforesaid, or offending in false packing as aforesaid, shall forfeit the said Commodity, or the value thereof; and every offender in not putting their names, or not making such marks as aforesaid, shall for every such offence respectively, forfeit the sum of three shillings and four pence. And be it further Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That all such person and persons whatsoever within England and Wales, that shall pack up Butter for sale in any unsized Cask of greater or lesser quantity, do also set the just weight of the said Cask, after seasoning, visibly upon it, attested with his own particular Mark, or the two first Letters of his name, upon the penalty of Three shillings and four pence as aforesaid; and that no per-

person or persons whatsoever, do false pack up their Butter in the said unsized Cask, upon the forfeiture thereof as aforesaid; All which said several offences are to be enquired of, sued for, heard and determined in the Sessions of the Peace for the County, City, Borough, Town or Liberty, or in the Court of Record of the City, Borough, Town or Liberty where in such offence shall be committed, by Action of Debt, Indictment, Information or Presentment, wherein no Essoyn, Protection, or Wager of Law shall be allowed to the Defendant; and the one half of all the Forfeitures shall be to the use of the poor people inhabiting within the city, Borough, Hundred, Town or Liberty where such offence shall be committed from time to time; and the other half thereof to him or them that will sue for the same, besides double costs thereby expended. And to the end that the one half of the said forfeiture limited to the use of the said poor people, may be truly imployed and bestowed upon them, according to the true meaning of this present Act; Be it further Enacted and Ordained, That the Sheriff, Bayliff, or other Officer or person that shall levy or receive any Sum or Sums of money forfeited and recovered according to this present Act, shall and may by virtue thereof, without further Warrant, deliver the one half of the said sum or sums of money by him or them so levied or received, to some one or more of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of the same parish where the same Offence shall be committed, to be by them and every of them distributed and bestowed amongst the said poor people, according to the true meaning hereof; who shall have authority

rity by vertue of this present Act, to distribute and bestow the same accordingly; and are to do the same within Twenty days after receipt thereof, upon pain of forfeiture of the double value thereof, to be recovered and employed as aforesaid. Provided, That every Suit and Information which shall be brought upon this Act, shall be commenced within one year immediately after the Offence committed, and not afterwards. Provided also, That this Act shall continue in force from the Five and twentieth day of March One thousand six hundred and fifty, for the space of two years and no longer.

Passed the Twelfth of *March*, 1649.

An Act for the Redemption of Captives.

Whereas the Parliament formerly taking into consideration the Redemption of Captives, taken by Turkish, Moorish, and other Pirats, did for the accomplishment of that work, by several Ordinances impose a duty on Goods and Merchandizes Exported and Imported into, and out of this Realm, which some time since hath been expired: But the Parliament finding that the moneys already Collected on those Ordinances, will not be sufficient to perfect that good work, Do therefore Enact, and be it Enacted by Authority of this present Parliament, That one fourth part of one per cent. which is one Shilling in every Twenty Shillings paid for Custom and Subsidy, according to the now Book of Rates established by the Authority of this present Parliament, shall from and after the First day of April, One thousand six hundred

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dyed and fifty, to be raised, lewyed and paid over
 and above the said Custom and Subsidy, of
 and from all and every such Goods, Wares,
 and other Merchandizes, to be Imported into,
 or Exported out of this Common-Wealth of
 England; the said sum of one quarter of one per
 cent. to be raised and paid for the space of two
 years next after the said First day of April, One
 thousand six hundred and fifty, and received and
 taken by the Commissioners of the Customs
 for the time being, their Deputy or Deputies,
 and by them to be laid out, paid and imployed,
 in such manner as by the Committee of the Ma-
 jor shall be ordered and directed, whose Order
 from time to time shall be their sufficient dis-
 charge. And be it Enacted by the Authority
 aforesaid, That if any Goods, Wares or Mer-
 chandizes, whereof the sum of one fourth part
 of one per cent. is or shall be due and payable by
 vertue of this Act, shall at any time hereafter
 be shipped, or put into any Boat or other Vessel,
 to the intent to be carried into the parts be-
 yond the Seas, or else be brought from the
 parts beyond the Seas into any part of this
 Common-Wealth aforesaid, and unshipped to be
 laid on Land, the sum of one quarter of one
 per cent. due on the same not paid; all the same
 Goods, Wares and other Merchandize what-
 soever, shall be forfeited and lost, the one
 moiety of the value thereof to be to him or
 them that will seize or sue for the same, and the
 other moiety to be imployed for the Redem-
 ption of Captives as aforesaid. Provided,
 That the said duty be not demanded or lewyed
 of the Merchant Strangers, Trading upon
 the Composition Trade at Dover. Provided
 also, and it is the true intent and meaning of
 this

this Act, That no Merchant-Stranger whatsoever, as to this duty, do pay any more then the Merchant-Denizen doth; and likewise that as touching the duty hereby imposed, there be no deduction or defalcation of Fifteen per cent. Any thing in this Act to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Passed the Six and twentieth of March, 1650.

An Additional Act for the better Observation of the Lords-day, days of Humiliation and Thanksgiving. Together with a Collection of former Laws, Statutes and Ordinances now in force for Observation of the said Days.

FOr the more effectual executing of all such Laws, Statutes and Ordinances of Parliament, for the due Observation and Sanctification of the Lords-day, days of Publique Humiliation and Thanksgiving; And for the further preventing the prophanation thereof, It is Enacted and Declared by this present Parliament, and by the Authority of the same, That all and every High Constable, Petty Constable, Headborough, Church-warden or Overseer of the Poor or other Officers, or any of the Governors of the Company of Watermen, upon their own view or knowledge of any the Offence or Offences committed or done against any Article, Clause, or Provision of any the said Laws, Statutes or Ordinances; and all and every person and persons whatsoever, by Warrant from any Justice of Peace, Major, Bayliff or other Head-Officer, are hereby authorized and required to seize and secure all such Wares or Goods cryed, shewed forth or put to sale upon the days and times aforesaid, contrary to this present

present Act, or any Statute or Ordinance of Parliament, to the end proceedings may be thereupon had, according to the true intent and meaning of this present Act, or any of the said Laws, Statutes and Ordinances. And it is further Enacted, That no Traveller, Waggoner, Butcher, Higler, Drover, their or any of their Servants, shall Travel or come into his or their Inn or Lodging, after Twelve of the clock on any Saturday night; nor shall any person Travel from his House, Inn or other place, till after one a clock on Monday morning, without good and urgent cause, not incurred through the neglect or occasion of the person so doing, to be allowed by any Justice of the Peace or Head-Officer before whom complaint shall be made; upon pain that every such Traveller, Waggoner, Butcher, Higler, Drover and their Servants, and also every Inn-keeper, and Alehouse-keeper that shall so entertain him or them, shall each of them forfeit Ten shillings for every such Offence. And if any Writ, Warrant or Order (except in case of Treason, Murder, Felony or breach of the Peace, Profanation of the Lords day, days of Thanksgiving or Humiliation, or Suspicion of them, or either or any of them) shall be from and after the first day of May, in the year One thousand six hundred and fifty, served or executed, upon any the aforesaid days, every such Execution of such Writ, Warrant or Order upon the said days respectively, shall be, and is hereby Declared to be of no effect; and the person or persons that shall serve or execute such Writ, Warrant or Order, or cause the same to be served or executed, shall forfeit and pay to the use of the Poor of the Parish where

where such Offence shall be committed, Five pounds, to be levied upon his or their Goods and Chattels in manner aforesaid, rendering the overplus. And it is further Enacted and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That no person or persons shall use, imploy or travel upon the Lords-day, or the said days of Humiliation or Thanksgiving, with any Boat, Wherry, Lighter, Barge, Horse, Coach or Sedan, either in the City of London or elsewhere (except it be to or from some place for the Service of God, or upon other extraordinary occasion, to be allowed by the next Justice of the Peace to the place where the said Fact shall be committed) upon pain that every such person or persons that shall use such Boat, Wherry, Lighter, Barge, Horse, Coach or Sedan, contrary to the true meaning of this present Act (except it be in the cases aforesaid) shall for every such Offence forfeit and lose the sum of Ten shillings; and that every Boat-man, Sedan-man, Coach man or other person, that shall so labor or travel in or with any such Boat, Wherry, Lighter, Barge, Sedan, Horse or Coach, shall forfeit for every such offence, five shillings. And it is further Enacted and Declared, That every person and persons which upon the said Lords-day, days of Humiliation or Thanksgiving, shall be in any Tavern, Inn, Ale-house, Tobacco house or Shop, or Victualling-house (unless he lodge there, or be there upon some lawful or necessary occasion) to be allowed of by such Judge, Justice, or other person who is authorized by this Act to put the same in Execution; and every person or persons which upon the said Days shall be Dancing, prophanely Singing, Drinking or

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Tipling in any Tavern, Inn, Ale-house,
 Victualling-house, or Tobacco-house or Shop,
 or shall harbor or entertain any person or per-
 sons so offending; or which shall grinde or cause
 to be ground in any Mill, any Corn or Grain
 upon any the said days, except in case of necessi-
 ty, to be allowed by a Justice of the Peace,
 every such Offender shall forfeit and pay the
 sum of Ten shillings for every such Offence,
 to be levied as aforesaid. And for the more vi-
 gorous and due execution of the Laws, Sta-
 tutes and Ordinances aforesaid, and of this
 present Act, It is hereby further Enacted,
 That every Justice of the Peace, Head Offi-
 cer or Officers of every Town-Corporate or
 Place; and every Constable, Headborough,
 Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, and Go-
 vernors of the Company of Watermen, and
 other persons authorized as aforesaid, are
 hereby required and enjoined to make diligent
 search for the discovering, finding out, ap-
 prehending and punishing of all Offenders
 against this and other Laws, Ordinances,
 and Acts made for the Observation of the
 Lords-Day, and days of Publique Fasting
 and Thanksgiving: And if any the said Ju-
 stices of the Peace, and other Officers aforesaid,
 upon view or Information of any the
 said Offences to be committed, shall be negli-
 gent, or refuse to do his duty in putting this
 or other the said Ordinances, Laws or Acts
 in execution, every such Justice of the Peace,
 or other Head-Officer, upon proof thereof
 before the Lord Chief Justice of either Bench,
 or Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, or
 before any Judge or Judges of Assize, by
 one or more Witnesses, or by view or confession
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of the party, shall for every such Offence incur the penalty of Five pounds; and upon refusal of payment thereof, to be levied on his Goods or Chattels, by Warrant from the said Lord Chief Justices, or Lord Chief Baron, Judge or Judges of Assize respectively, by distress and sale of the Goods of every such person, returning the overplus; and every High Constable, Petty Constable, Church Warden and other Officer shall forfeit and pay for his neglect aforesaid, the sum of Twenty shillings; and for default of payment thereof, the same to be levied by Warrant from any Justice of the Peace, directed to the High Constable of the hundred, or other Officer where the Offence shall be committed, for the levying of the said Penalty by way of distress and sale of the Offenders Goods, and returning the Overplus as aforesaid: And all other penalties imposed by this Act, for which no way of levying is provided by the said former Laws and Ordinances, shall be levied by Warrant from any one Justice of Peace, Major, Bailiff or Head Officer, by distress and sale of the Offenders Goods; and for want of payment thereof or such distress to be found, by setting the Offenders in the Stocks or Cage for the space of six hours. And it likewise Enacted and Declared, That all Judges, Justices of Assize, and Justices of Peace at their Assizes or Quarter-Sessions, shall in their several and respective Circuits and Courts give in charge to the Grand Jury, to enquire of and present all neglects of Justices, Constables, and other Officers in the due execution of this present Act, and other Laws, Ordinances and Statutes made for the observation of the Lords-day,

day, and days of Publique Fasting and Thanksgiving, who are hereby strictly commanded to present the same. And it is also hereby Enacted, That the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, Sheriffs and Justices of Peace of the City of London, County of Middlesex, and City of Westminster, and Borough of Southwark, together with the Heads and Governors of the several Inns of Court and Chancery; and all and every Justice of Peace, Mayors, Bayliffs, and other Head Officers, and every of them, are hereby authorized and required to take a speedy and effectual course, by such means as they shall think most meet within their respective Jurisdiction, to restrain as aforesaid the prophanation of the said days; upon pain that the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs and Justices in London, and Middlesex, and Westminster, Heads of the several Inns of Court and Chancery, Justices and other Head Officers, which shall neglect to do what belongs to their several duties and places therein, shall forfeit the sum of Five pounds, to be levied in such manner as the Fines imposed on Justices of Peace for their neglects are hereby appointed to be levied as aforesaid. And it is Enacted and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act be forthwith Printed, and bound up together in with all the former Statutes and Ordinances now in force, for Observation of the Lords-day, Publique Fasting and Thanksgiving days, and published by the Justice of Peace, or chief Officer or Officers aforesaid, and read at their next Quarter Sessions after they shall receive the same; and also by them sent unto, or left at the several Houses of the Ministers of the respective Parishes within

Within their respective limits, who are hereby required and appointed in all the Churches and Chappels within this Commonwealth, publicly to read or cause to be read, all and every the said Statutes and Ordinances so bound up together, the next Lords-day after he or they shall receive the same, before the morning Sermon; and that afterwards once every year (viz.) Upon the first Lords-day in March before the morning Sermon, they read or cause to be read likewise this present and the former Acts and Ordinances aforesaid; the due performance whereof the said Justices of Peace and other Head-Officers are commanded to inquire after, and certifye the names of the persons making default in reading and publishing the premises, according to this present Act, to the Speaker of the Parliament, and in the intervals thereof, to the Council of State; and the Justices of Peace at their Quarter Sessions, shall duly cause this Act, together with the said Statutes and Ordinances, to be openly read. And it is lastly Enacted, That in any Action brought against any Justice of Peace, Constable, or any other Officer or person acting or doing, or commanding to be acted or done, any thing in pursuance of this or any former Law, Act or Ordinance now in force, touching or concerning any the Offences or matters aforesaid, the Defendant in every such Action shall and may plead the General Issue, and give the special matter in Evidence; and upon the Non-suit of the Plaintiff, or verdict passing for the Defendant, the party Defendant shall have and recover his and their treble Costs, or at the election of such party, shall have his reparation by the Committee of
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Parliament

Parliament for Indemnity. And it is hereby Ordained, That all persons whatsoever shall be aiding and assisting to all Justices of Peace, Head-Officers, Constables, and other Officers and persons, in the Execution of this or the said former Acts or Ordinances in and concerning the premises.

Passed the Nineteenth of April, 1650.

Anno Primo Jacobi Regis.

C A P. XXII.

The duty of Shoe-makers.

NO Cordwainer or Shoe-maker shall shew, to the intent to put to sale, any Shoes, Boots, Buskins, Startups, Slippers or Pantofles upon the Sunday, upon pain of Forfeiture of every pair of Shoes, Boots, Buskins, Startups, Slippers and Pantofles made, sold, shewed or put to sale, contrary to the true meaning of this Act, Three Shillings four pence, and the just and full value of the same.

Anno Primo Caroli Regis.

C A P. I.

There shall be no Assemblies for unlawful Pastimes upon the Lords-day.

FOrasmuch as there is nothing more acceptable to God, then the true and sincere Service and worship of him, according to his holy will; and that the holy keeping of the Lords-day is a principal part of the true Service of God, which in very many places of this Realm hath been, and now is prophaned and neglected by a disorderly sort of people, in exercising

cising and frequenting Bear-baiting, Bul-baiting, Enterludes, Common Plays, and other unlawful Exercises and Pastimes upon the Lords-day: And for that many Quarrels, Bloodsheds, and other great inconveniences have grown, by the resort and concourse of people going out of their own Parishes to such Disordered and Unlawful Exercises and Pastimes, neglecting Divine worship both in their own Parishes and elsewhere; Be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, and the Lords and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That from and after forty days next after the end of this Session of Parliament, there shall be no Meetings, Assemblies or concourse of people out of their own Parishes on the Lords-day within this Realm of England, or any the Dominions thereof, for any Sports or Pastimes whatsoever, nor any Bear baiting, Bull-baiting, Enterludes, Common Plays, or other unlawful Exercises and Pastimes used by any person or persons within their own Parishes; and that every person and persons offending in any the premises, shall forfeit for every offence Three shillings four pence, the same to be employed and converted to the use of the poor of the Parish where such Offence shall be committed: And that if any one Justice of the Peace of the County, or the chief Officer or Officers of any City, Borough or Town Corporate, where such offence shall be committed, upon his or their view, or confession of the party, or proof of any one or more witnesses by Oath, which the said Justice or chief Officer or Officers shall by virtue of this Act have authority to minister, shall finde any person

person offending in the premises, the said Justice or chief Officer or Officers shall give Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal, to the Constables or Church-Wardens of the Parish or Parishes where such offence shall be committed, to levy the said penalty so to be assessed, by way of Distress and sale of the Goods of every such offender, rendering to the said offenders the overplus of the money raised of the said Goods so to be sold: And in default of such Distress, That the party offending be set publicquely in the Stocks by the space of three hours; And that if any man be sued or impeached for the execution of this Law, he shall and may plead the General Issue, and give the said matter of Justification in Evidence. Provided, That no man be impeached by this Act, except he be called in question within one moneth next after the said offence committed. Provided also, That the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction within this Realm, or any the Dominions thereof, by vertue of this Act or any thing therein contained, shall not be abridged, but that the Ecclesiastical Court may punish the said offences, as if this Act had not been made.

Anno Tertio Caroli Regis.

C A P. I.

A Restraint of divers Abuses committed on the Lords-day.

FOrasmuch as the Lords-day, commonly called Sunday, is much broken and profaned by Carriers, Waggoners, Carters, Wain men, Butchers and Drivers of Cattel, to the great dishonor of God, and reproach of Religion; Be it therefore Enacted by the Kings

Kings most Excellent Majesty, and the Lords and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That no Carrier with any Horse or Horses, nor Waggon-men with any Waggon or Waggon, nor Carmen with any Cart or Carts, nor Wain men with any Wain or Wains, nor Drovers with any Cattel, shall after forty days next after the end of this present Session of Parliament, by themselves or any other, travel upon the said Day, upon pain that every person and persons so offending, shall lose and forfeit Twenty shillings for every such offence; or if any Butcher by himself, or any other for him, by his privity or consent, shall after the end of the said forty days, kill or sell any Victual upon the said day, that then every such Butcher shall forfeit and lose for every such Offence, the sum of Six shillings and eight pence; the said offences and every of them being done in view of any Justice of the Peace, Major or other Head-Officer of any City or Town Corporate, within their Limits respectively, or being proved upon Oath by two or more Witnesses, or by the confession of the party offending, before any such Justice, Major or Head-Officer within their several Limits respectively, wherein such offence shall be committed; To which end every such Justice, Major or Head-Officer shall have power by this Act to minister an Oath to such Witness or Witnesses; all which sums or penalties shall or may be levied by any Constable or Churchwarden, by Warrant from any such Justice or Justices of the Peace, Major or other Head-Officer as aforesaid, within their several Limits, where such offence shall be committed or done, by Distress and sale of

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the offenders Goods, rendering to the party the overplus; or shall be recovered by any person or persons that will sue for the same, by Bill, Plaint or Information, in any of his Majesties Courts of Record, in any City or Town Corporate, before his Majesties Justices of the Peace, in their General Sessions of the Peace: All which Forfeitures shall be employed to and for the use of the Poor of the Parishes where the said offences shall be committed or done; saving onely that it shall be lawful to and for any such Justice, Mayor or Head-Officer, out of the said Forfeitures to reward any such person or persons that shall inform, or otherwise prosecute any person or persons offending against this present Act, according to their discretion, so that such reward exceed not the third part of the forfeiture. Provided, That such Bill, Plaint or Information shall be commenced, sued and prosecuted in the County, City or Town Corporate, where such offence shall be committed and done, and not elsewhere; wherein no Essoin, Protection or Wager of Law shall be allowed to the Defendant. Provided always, That it shall be lawful for any Constable or Churchwarden, that shall have any Suit or Action brought against them for any Distress by them or any of them to be taken by force of this present Act, to plead the General Issue, and to give the special matter in Evidence. Provided likewise, That no person or persons whatsoever, shall be impeached by this Act, unless he be thereof questioned within six moneths after the offence committed. Provided further, That this Act shall not in any sort abridge or take away the Authority of the Court Ecclesiastical.

An Ordinance of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, for the better Observation of the Lords-day.

FOrasmuch as the Lords-day, notwithstanding several good Laws heretofore made, hath been not onely greatly prophaned, but divers ungodly Books have been published by the Prelatical Faction, against the Morality of that Day, and to countenance the prophanation of the same, to the manifest endangering of Souls, prejudice of the true Religion, great dishonor of Almighty God, and provocation of his just Wrath and indignation against this Land; The Lords and Commons for remedy thereof, Do Order and Ordain, and be it Ordered and Ordained, That all the Laws Enacted and in force, concerning the Observation of the Lords-day, be carefully put in execution; and that all and singular person and persons Whatsoever, shall on every Lords-day apply themselves to the Sanctification of the same, by exercising themselves thereon, in the duties of Piety and true Religion, publicly and privately: And that no person or persons Whatsoever, shall publicly cry, shew forth or expose to sale, any Wares, Merchandizes, Fruit, Herbs, Goods or Chattels Whatsoever, upon the Lords-day, or any part thereof; upon pain that every person so offending shall forfeit the same Goods so cryed, shewed forth or put to sale: And that no person or persons Whatsoever, shall without reasonable cause for the same, travel, carry burthens, or do any worldly labors or work Whatsoever, upon that day or any part thereof; upon pain that every one travelling contrary to the meaning of this Ordinance, shall forfeit for every offence

fence Ten shillings of lawful money; and that every person carrying any burthen, or doing any worldly labor or work, contrary to the meaning hereof, shall forfeit five shillings of like money for every such offence.

And be it further Ordained, That no person or persons shall hereafter upon the Lords-day, use, exercise, keep, maintain, or be present at any Wrestling, Shooting, Bowling, Ringing of Bells for pleasure or pastime, Masque, Wake, otherwise called Feasts, Church-Ale, Dancing, Games, Sport or Pastime whatsoever; upon pain that every person so offending, being above the age of Fourteen years, shall lose and forfeit five shillings for every such offence.

And be it further Ordained, That all and singular person and persons, that have the care, government, tuition or education of any childe or children, under or within the age of Fourteen years, shall forfeit and lose Twelve pence for every of the said offences that shall be committed by any such childe and children.

And because the prophanation of the Lords-day hath been heretofore greatly occasioned by May-Poles (a Heathenish Vanitie, generally abused to Superstition and Wickedness) The Lords and Commons do further Order and Ordain, That all and singular May Poles, that are or shall be erected, shall be taken down and removed by the Constables, Borsholders, Tything-men, petty Constables and Churchwardens of the Parishes and Places where the same be; and that no May-Pole shall be hereafter set up, erected, or suffered to be within this Kingdom of England or Dominion of Wales.

And

And it is further Ordained, That if any of the said Officers shall neglect to do their Office in the premises, Within one Week after notice of this Ordinance, every of them for such neglect shall forfeit Five Shillings of lawful moneys, and so from Week to Week, Weekly Five Shillings more afterwards, till the said May-pole shall be taken down and removed.

And that if any Justice of the Peace of the County, or the chief Officer or Officers, or any Justice of the Peace of or Within any City, Borough or Town Corporate, Where the said Offences shall be committed, upon his or their view, or confession of the party, or proof of any one or more Witnesses by Oath (Which the said Justice, Chief Officer or Officers, is authorized by this Ordinance to minister) shall finde any person offending in the premises, the said Justice, or Chief Officer or Officers, shall give Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal, to the Constables or ChurchWardens of the Parish or Parishes Where such offence shall be committed, to seize the said Goods cryed, shewed forth, or put to sale as aforesaid; and to levy the said other forfeitures or penalties by way of Distress, and sale of the Goods of every such Offender, rendering to the said Offenders, the Overplus of the moneys raised thereby; And in default of such Distress, or in case of insufficiency, or inability of the Offender to pay the said forfeitures or penalties, that the party offending be set publicly in the Stocks by the space of three hours. And all and singular the Forfeitures or Penalties aforesaid, shall be employed and converted to the use of the poor of the Parish Where the said offences shall be committed; saving onely,

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that it shall and may be lawful to and for any such Justice, Mayor or Head-Officer or Officers, out of the said forfeitures or penalties, to reward any person or persons that shall inform of any offence against this Ordinance, according to their discretions; so as such reward exceed not the third part of the forfeiture or penalties.

And it is further Ordained by the said Lords and Commons, That the Kings Declaration concerning observing of Wakes, and use of Exercise and Recreation upon the Lords-Day; the Book entituled, The Kings Majesties Declaration to His Subjects, concerning lawful Sports to be used; and all other Books and Pamphlets that have been or shall be written, printed or published against the Morality of the Fourth Commandment, or of the Lords-Day, or to countenance the prophanation thereof, be called in, seized and suppressed, and publicquely burnt by the Justices of Peace, or some or one of them, or by the chief Officer or Officers aforesaid, in their severall Limits, or by their Warrant or Command. Provided, and be it Declared, That nothing in this Ordinance shall extend to the prohibiting of dressing of meat in private Families, or the dressing and sale of Victuals in a moderate way in Inns or Victualling-houses, for the use of such as otherwise cannot be provided for; or to the crying and selling of Milk before nine of the clock in the morning, or after four of the clock in the afternoon, from the tenth of September, till the tenth of March; or before eight of the clock in the morning, or after five of the clock in the afternoon, from the Tenth of March, till the Tenth of September.

And

And Whereas there is great breach of the Sabbath by Rogues, Vagabonds and Beggars, it is further Ordained, That the Lord Mayor of the City of London, and all Justices of Peace, Constables, Churchwardens, and other Officers and Ministers whatsoever, shall from time to time cause all Laws against Rogues, Vagabonds and Beggars to be put in due execution; and take order that all Rogues, Vagabonds and Beggars, do on every Sabbath-day repair to some Church or Chappel, and remain there soberly and orderly during the time of Divine worship: And that all and singular person and persons that shall do any thing in the execution of this Ordinance, shall be protected and saved harmless by the power and Authority of Parliament.

And be it further Ordained, That this Ordinance be printed and published, and read in all Parish Churches and Chappels, before the Sermon in the Morning, on some Lords-day before the first of May next, on the South side of Trent, and before the first of June next, on the North side of Trent.

Passed the Sixth of *April*, 1644.

An Act for suppressing the detestable Sins of Incest,
Adultery and Fornication.

FOr the suppressing of the abominable and crying sins of Incest, Adultery and Fornication, wherewith this Land is much defiled, and Almighty God highly displeased; Be it Enacted by the Authority of this present Parliament, That if any person or persons whatsoever, shall from and after the four and twentieth day of June, in the year of our Lord,
One

One thousand six hundred and fifty, Marry, or have the Carnal knowledge of the Body of his or her Grandfather or Grandmother, Father or Mother, Brother or Sister, Son or Daughter, or Grandchilde, Fathers Brother or Sister, Mothers Brother or Sister, Fathers wife, Mothers Husband, Sons wife, Daughters Husband, wibes Mother or Daughter, Husbands Father or Son; all and every such Offences are hereby adjudged and declared Incest: And every such Offence shall be, and is hereby adjudged Felony; and every person offending therein, and confessing the same, or being thereof convicted by verdict upon Indictment or Presentment before any Judge or Justices at the Assize or Sessions of the Peace, shall suffer death as in case of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy: And all and every such Marriage and Marriages are hereby Declared and adjudged to be void in Law, to all intents and purposes; and the Children begotten between such persons, notwithstanding any contract or solemnization of Marriage, to be illegitimate, and altogether disabled to claim or Inherit any Lands or Inheritance whatsoever, by way of descent from, or to receive or challenge any Childes Portion in any Goods or Chattels of their said Parents, or any other Ancestors of such Parents. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any married Woman shall from and after the Four and twentieth day of June aforesaid, be carnally known by any man (other then her Husband) (except in case of Ravishment) and of such offence or offences shall be convicted as aforesaid by confession or otherwise, every such offence and offences shall be, and is hereby adjudged

judged Felony; and every person, as well the man as the woman offending therein, and confessing the same, or being thereof convicted by verdict upon Indictment or Presentment as aforesaid, shall suffer death as in case of Felony, without benefit of Clergy. Provided, That this shall not extend to any man who at the time of such offence committed, is not knowing that such woman with whom such offence is committed is then married. Provided also, That the said penalty in the case of Adultery aforesaid, shall not extend to any woman whose husband shall be continually remaining beyond the Seas by the space of three years, or shall by common fame be reputed to be dead; nor to any woman whose husband shall absent himself from his said wife by the space of three years together, in any parts or places whatsoever, so as the said wife shall not know her said husband to be living within that time. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any man shall from and after the Four and twentieth day of June aforesaid, have the carnal knowledge of the body of any Virgin, unmarried woman or widow, every such man so offending, and confessing the same, or being thereof convicted by verdict upon Indictment or Presentment, as also every such woman so offending, and confessing the same, or being thereof convicted as aforesaid, shall for every such offence be committed to the common Goal, without Bail or Mainprize, there to continue for the space of three moneths; and until he and she respectively shall give security, to be taken by one or more Justice or Justices of the Peace, before whom such Confession or Conviction shall be had, to be of the good
B b
behavior

behavior for the space of one whole year then next ensuing, And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every person and persons who shall from and after the Four and twentieth day of June aforesaid, be convicted as aforesaid, by confession or otherwise, for being a common Bawd, be it man or Woman, or Wittingly keeping a common Brothel or Bawdy house, shall for his or her first offence be openly whipped and set in the Pillory, and there marked with a hot Iron in the forehead with the Letter B. and afterwards committed to prison or the House of Correction, there to work for his or her living for the space of three years, without Bail or Mainprize, and until he or she shall put in sufficient Sureties for his or her good behavior, during his or her life: And if any person by confession or otherwise shall be convicted of committing, after such Conviction, any of the said last recited offences, every such second offence shall be, and is hereby adjudged Felony; and the person and persons so offending shall suffer death, as in case of Felony, without benefit of Clergy. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Justices of Assize in their respective Circuits, and the Justices of Peace in every County, at their usual and General Sessions, are hereby authorized and required to give in charge to the Grand Jury, to enquire of all and every the Crimes aforesaid: And the said Justices of Assize, Justices of the Peace in their General Sessions, and all and every Major and Justices of Peace of any City, Borough or Town Corporate, that have power to hear and determine Felonies at their usual Sessions,

ons, shall have full Power and Authority to enquire by verdict of Twelve or more good and lawful men, within the said respective Counties and places aforesaid, of all and every the Crimes and Offences aforesaid; and upon Indictment or Presentment, to hear and determine the same, as in other cases of Felony or Trespass, Any Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided, That no Attainder for any Offence made Felony by this Act, shall make or work any corruption of Blood, loss of Power, Forfeiture of Goods, disinherison of Heir or Heirs. Provided also, That no person or persons shall incur any of the penalties in this Act mentioned, unless the said person or persons be thereof indicted within twelve moneths after the offence committed. Provided also, That it shall be lawful for any person or persons who shall be indicted for any the offences aforesaid, to produce at their respective Tryals any witness or witnesses, for the clearing of themselves from the said Offences whereof they shall be so indicted: And the Justices before whom such Tryal shall be so had, shall have power, and are hereby authorized to examine the said witnesses upon Oath. Provided, That no parties Confession shall be taken as Evidence within this Act against any other, but onely against such party so confessing; nor the Husband shall be taken as a witness against his wife, nor the wife against her husband, for any offence punishable by this Act.

Passed the tenth of May, 1650.

An Act for the better Preventing and Suppressing of prophane
Swearing and Curfing.

FOr the better preventing and suppressing
of the detestable Sins of Prophane
Swearing and Curfing, Be it Enacted by
this present Parliament, and the Authority
thereof, That if any person or persons shall
hereafter offend by Prophane Swearing or
Curfing, in the presence or hearing of any
Justice of the Peace of the County, or chief
Officer, or Justice of Peace of the City or
Town Corporate Where the same shall be com-
mitted, or shall be thereof convicted by Con-
fession of the party, or by the Oath of one
Witness or more, before any such Justice of
Peace of the County, or chief Officer or
Justice of Peace of such City or Town Cor-
porate Where such Offence is or shall be com-
mitted (for which end every Justice of Peace,
and every such Head-Officer as aforesaid, have
power hereby within their several precincts to
administer an Oath, and are enjoined to keep
a Record of such Conviction, and to make
Certificates quarterly of the Name of every
person so convicted, and the degree of such his
or her Offence, to the Clerk of the Peace for
the County Where such Conviction shall be, to
be by him Recorded) That then every such
Offender shall for every time so offending, for-
feit and pay to the use of the Poor of that Pa-
rish Where the same is or shall be committed, for
the first Offence, according to the degree and
quality of such person and persons so offend-
ing, in manner and form following; viz. Every
person and persons who writeth or stileth him-
self, or is usually written or stiled Duke, Mar-
quis,

quis, Earl, Viscount, Baron or Lord, the sum of Thirty shillings; Every person and persons who writeth or stileth himself, or is usually written or stiled Baronet or Knight, the sum of Twenty shillings; Every person and persons who writeth or stileth himself, or is usually written or stiled Esquire, the sum of Ten shillings; Every person and persons who writeth or stileth himself, or is usually written or stiled Gentleman, the sum of Six shillings and Eight pence; And all other person and persons whatsoever, under the Degrees before expressed, shall forfeit and pay to the uses aforesaid, the sum of Three shillings and four pence: And that every such Offender and Offenders shall forfeit and pay for the second Offence, in manner and form following; viz. Every such Duke, Marquis, Earl, Viscount, Baron or Lord as aforesaid, the sum of Three pounds; Every such Baronet or Knight as aforesaid, the sum of Forty shillings; Every such Esquire as aforesaid, the sum of Twenty shillings; Every such Gentleman as aforesaid, the sum of Thirteen shillings and four pence: And all and every other person and persons whatsoever so offending, under the said Degrees, the sum of Six shillings and eight pence: And that every such Offender and Offenders for the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth Offence, and every of them being thereof convicted as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay to the uses and purposes aforesaid, the penalty and forfeiture by this Act imposed on every such person, according to his Degree and Quality aforesaid, for such second Offence. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every person and persons, of

What Degree or Quality soever, Who shall up-
 on Information, Presentment or Indict-
 ment before any Justice of Assize, Justices of
 Oyer and Terminer, Justices of the Peace in
 every Shire, City or Town (Who have here-
 by Power and Authority to enquire of, hear
 and determine the same) by Confession or Ver-
 dict be found guilty of any the Offences a-
 foresaid the tenth time, shall besides incurring
 the Forfeiture by this Act imposed on such
 person for such second Offence, be adjudged a
 Common Swearer or Cursler, and be bound
 with Sureties to the Good Behavior during
 three years; and that for every like Offence
 afterwards, upon the like conviction, every
 such offender shall incur the like forfeiture, and
 give the like Security as for the tenth offence:
 And that if any person that shall be so bound as
 aforesaid, shall at any time afterwards, while
 he stands so bound, be convicted in manner a-
 foresaid of the like Offence, the same shall be
 adjudged and taken to be, and the same is here-
 by Adjudged and Declared to be a Breach of
 the Good Behavior by every such person and
 persons. And be it further Enacted by the Au-
 thority aforesaid, That every Woman, whether
 she be wife, widow or single woman, that shall
 commit any of the Offences aforesaid, in the
 presence of any Justice of Peace, or Head-Of-
 ficer aforesaid, or shall be of such Offence con-
 victed as aforesaid, shall for every such Offence
 incur the like Forfeiture, penalty and judge-
 ment, as if the same Offence had been com-
 mitted by the Husband of such Wife or Widow,
 or by the father of such single woman, and ac-
 cording to the Degree and Quality of such Hus-
 band and Father respectively herein before ex-
 pressed.

pressed. And be it likewise Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Forfeitures aforesaid, shall be levied upon the Goods and Chattels of every person and persons before specified so offending, by Warrant from such Justice of the Peace or Head-Officer aforesaid, by Distress and sale of the said Goods and Chattels, restoring the overplus: And in default of payment of the said Forfeiture, or Security given for the same, in case no sufficient distress shall be found, the offender, if he or she be above the Age of Twelve years, shall by Warrant from such Justice of the Peace or Head-Officer, be set in the Stocks, there to remain for the space of three whole hours for such first offence; and for the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth offence, and every of them, for the space of six hours; but if the offender be under the Age of Twelve years, and shall not forthwith pay the Forfeiture aforesaid, That then he or she shall by Warrant of such Justice of the Peace or Head-Officer, be whipped by the Constable, or by the Parent or Master of such Offender, in the presence of the Constable. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Constable, Headborough, Church-warden, Overseer of the Poor, or any other Officer, to Apprehend or cause to be Apprehended, or for any other person or persons whatsoever, by Warrant from any Justice of Peace, or such Head-Officer as aforesaid, to apprehend and bring, or cause to be Apprehended and brought before any Justice of Peace, or Head-Officer as aforesaid, the Body of any person or persons offending contrary to this Act, to
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the end all such persons may be proceeded against as to Justice shall appertain. And it is further Enacted, That in any Action brought against any Justice of Peace, Constable, or any other Officer or person acting or doing, or commanding to be acted or done, any thing in pursuance of this Act, touching or concerning any the offences or matters aforesaid, The Defendant in every such Action shall and may plead the General Issue, and give the special matter in Evidence: And upon the non-Suit of the Plaintiff, or Verdict passing for the Defendant, the party Defendant shall have and recover his and their treble Costs. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That this present Act shall be in force from and after the first day of August, One thousand six hundred and fifty: And that one Act of Parliament, made in the One and twentieth year of the Reign of the late King James (Entituled, An Act against prophane Swearing and Cursing) be and is, from and after the said first day of August, hereby Repealed. And it is lastly Enacted by Authority aforesaid, That this Act be forthwith printed; and that all and every Sheriff and Sheriffs of every County and City within England and Wales, do proclaim, or cause this Act to be proclaimed in all Cities, Towns, Boroughs, and other publique and usual places within their respective Liberties, upon the Market day next after the receipt thereof, and cause the same to be set up, and affixed in the publique places accustomed.

Passed the Twenty eighth of *June*, 1650.

An Act for Sheriffs to appoint Deputies, who are to receive and transmit the Acts, Orders and Directions of the Parliament and Council of State; and the respective Sheriffs to make return thereof, as they shall be enjoined by the Parliament or Council.

Whereas by the Laws and Statutes now in force, & Sheriffs of each County within this Commonwealth, are each of them to make yearly a Deputy in the Chancery, the Upper Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer of Record, to receive all manner of Writs and Warrants to be delivered to them; viz. All such Writs and Warrants as shall be directed to the Sheriffs for whom such Deputy is appointed, and such Sheriffs as shall do to the contrary, to incur the Penalties in these Statutes mentioned, as by those Acts (relation thereto being had) may appear. And whereas the Acts and Orders of Parliament which are of general concernment, ought upon the printing and publishing thereof to be taken notice of, observed and obeyed by all the Members of this Commonwealth therein interested, according to the several exigencies of the same Acts and Orders, which may with the more facility and certainty be transmitted to their knowledge, and put in execution, if like course be taken for communication thereof, as in the said other ordinary cases of Writs and Warrants is observed and used: The Parliament of England taking the same into consideration, think fit to Enact and Ordain, and be it by the Authority of the same Enacted and Ordained, That all the Sheriffs of Counties within this Commonwealth, shall each of them within one moneth after their respective Elections to their several Offices, make yearly one sufficient

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Deputy

Deputy at the least, whose Name or Names shall be Recorded in two severall Registers to be kept for that purpose, one of them by the Clerk of the Parliament, and the other of them by the Secretary to the Council of State for the time being, from time to time to receive and transmit to each respective Sheriff for whom he or they serve as Deputy, All warrants, Orders, Acts and Proclamations directed to be sent from the Parliament, or from the Council of State appointed by their Authority, to do therewith and thereupon, as they shall be Enjoyned and Ordered by the Authority which causeth the same to be transmitted unto them; And that each Sheriff respectively shall make due return of all such Commands, and how they have been executed, to the Clerk of the Parliament, or Secretary to the Council of State, accordingly as he receives Orders from the Parliament or Council of State, which the said Clerk and Secretary are to make Entries of in their severall Registers, as there shall be occasion; for Want of making which Deputy or Deputies, or due returns as aforesaid, every such Sheriff shall forfeit to the Keepers of the Liberties of England, for the use of the Common-Wealth, All such Sums and Penalties as by the said former Statutes are Ordained against Sheriffs, who neglect to make Deputies in the said Courts of Record at Westminster, to be prosecuted and Recovered by the Attorney-General for the Common-Wealth, in such way as other Penalties and Forfeitures are to be prosecuted on behalf of the Common-Wealth; This Act to have continuance from henceforth for the space of one year and no longer.

Provided

Provided always, That what Charges or Expence extraordinary any High Sheriff shall be put unto by reason of this Act, the same shall be allowed unto him upon his Account in the Publique Exchequer.

Passed the Eleventh of July, 1650.

An Act to Prohibit all Commerce and Traffique between *England* and *Scotland*, and enjoying the departure of *Scots* out of this Commonwealth.

Whereas the Parliament and Kingdom of Scotland have by their late perfidious and hostile Invasion under their late Duke Hamilton, and other their manifold Practices and Designs really evidenced to be still continued against this State, broken and annulled the solemn League and Treaties made betwixt them and this Nation; and thereby, and by a wilful refection of all peaceable Overtures for a fitting Accommodation of Differences, after their many insufferable wrongs and provocations, have rendred it Just and Necessary for this Commonwealth to send an Army into that Kingdom, which is done accordingly, for the Reasons, and to the Ends in the late Declaration of this present Parliament upon their Armes march, published and expressed; which although all the People of this Commonwealth ought to take due notice, and in order to the succeeding of that necessary Expedition, are obliged to conform their Actions thereto, and forbear all supply and intercourse of and with that Country of Scotland, whilst in Enmity with this Commonwealth: Yet to take off all pretence of Ignorance of their Duties from all persons concerned

concerned herein; and that they may the better understand the danger of their Neglects, Be it Enacted, Ordained and Declared by this present Parliament, and by the Authority of the same, That all and every person or persons within this Commonwealth, or the Dominions thereof, that shall from and after the Fifth day of August, One thousand six hundred and fifty, use, hold or maintain any Correspondence or Intelligence With any person or persons of the Scottish Nation residing in Scotland, Without the License, Allowance or Approbation of the Parliament, the Council of State, or the Lord General, or With any other person or persons of the said Scottish or any other Nation, Whom they shall know to adhere to the Scottish Nation in this War against the Parliament, Without such License, Allowance or Approbation as aforesaid; or shall abet, assist, countenance or encourage the said Scottish Nation, or any other person or persons adhering to them in their War against the Parliament and Commonwealth of England; or shall go or send, or cause to be sent or conveyed, any Men, Moneys, Horse, Arms, Ammunition, or other Furniture of War, Plate, Goods or Merchandizes, or other Supply whatsoever into Scotland, or any Ports or places thereof, or to any Port, place or person under their Power, or in Confederacy With them against this Nation, Without the special leave or license of the Parliament of England, or Council of State appointed by their Authority, or of the Captain General of the Parliaments Forces as aforesaid; All and every such person and persons so offending, shall be Adjudged as Traytors to this Commonwealth, and shall undergo all Pains,

Pains, Penalties and Forfeitures, as in case of High Treason; the same Offences to be enquired of, Tryed, Judged and Determined by the Commissioners of the High Court of Justice lately Established, in such manner and form as other Offences already referred to the Power and Cognizance of that Court, are to be heard, tryed and determined. And be it further Enacted and Ordained by Authority aforesaid, That all and every person or persons of the Scottish Nation, that shall remain or be within the Cities of London or Westminster, or late Lines of Communication, or Weekly Bills of Mortality, that shall not be licensed or permitted to reside within the Commonwealth of England, by the Parliament, Council of State, or by the said Captain General, or by such person or persons as shall be thereunto authorized and appointed by the Parliament or Council of State to give and grant such Licenses, which the said Council of State are hereby authorized and appointed to do: All such person and persons of the Scottish Nation as abovesaid, not licensed as abovesaid, shall and are hereby required and commanded to depart forth of the said Cities, Lines of Communication, and places within the Weekly Bills of Mortality, at or before the Tenth day of August, in the year One thousand six hundred and fifty: And the said persons, and all and every other person and persons of the Scottish Nation, not being licensed as is abovesaid, shall, and are hereby required and commanded to depart forth and out of the Limits of the Commonwealth of England, at or before the First day of September, in the year One thousand six hundred and fifty. And be it further Enacted and Declared by Au-
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 thority

thority of this present Parliament, That all and every person and persons of the Scottish Nation, not licensed as abovesaid, that shall be within this Commonwealth of England, after the said First of September, One thousand six hundred and fifty, shall be adjudged, deemed and taken as Traytors and Enemies to this Commonwealth, and to be proceeded against by the said Commissioners of the High Court of Justice. And it shall and may be lawful for all Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, Majors, Bayliffs, and all other Officers of this Commonwealth, to apprehend and take all such persons, and to commit such person or persons so offending as abovesaid, to some common-Goal, in such county or city where such person or persons as abovesaid shall be so taken, and to certifye the same, and all Examinations taken for the proof of the said Offence, unto the Council of State, or the Commissioners of the High Court of Justice. And the said Commissioners of the said High Court of Justice are hereby required and authorized to hear and Determine the said Offences in this Act mentioned; And in case any person or persons are or shall be found guilty by the said Commissioners of any Offence within this present Act, That the said Commissioners shall and may, and are hereby required to proceed against such person and persons, and to give Judgement and Sentence of Death against Offenders; and every person and persons so found guilty of the said Offences, shall suffer the pains of Death as Traytors and Enemies, in such maner as the said Commissioners shall adjudge and appoint. And it is Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That upon every such Offence committed

committed as aforesaid, all the Real and Personal Estate of all and every person and persons offending contrary to this Act, shall be upon proof of the Offence forthwith seized, sequestred and disposed of by the Commissioners for Sequestrations, to and for the use of the Commonwealth.

Provided always, That the Penalties, Forfeitures or Judgement by this Act imposed, and appointed to be inflicted upon such person and persons as shall not so depart as aforesaid, by the respective time and times before limited, shall not extend to any person or persons of the Scottish Nation, being no Delinquent, and lyable to Sequestration within any Act or Ordinance of Parliament, that are and have been Naturalized by Act of Parliament, or that are and have been made Denizens under the Great Seal of England; nor to any person or persons of the Scottish Nation, that upon the Second day of August, in the year One thousand six hundred and fifty, stand and be committed to any Prison or Prisons, by virtue of any Writ or Proces of Law, or by Order of Parliament or Council of State, or by Authority derived from the Parliament, during such time onely as such person and persons do or shall remain in Prison, and not go abroad out of such Prisons where they are upon the said Second of August, without Order of Parliament, or License from the Council of State, or License of such as shall be authorized and appointed to give License and Liberty to such persons respectively; or to any person or persons of the Scottish Nation, Licensed or permitted as abovesaid to reside within this Commonwealth. Provided always,
That

That nothing in this Act contained, shall be interpreted to exempt any person or persons from the penalties expressed in the several Acts Declaring and Adjudging Treasons, but the Offenders within those Laws, shall be proceeded withal as is therein, and by subsequent Acts directed, and as if this present Act had not been had or made, Any thing therein specified to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided also, That this Act, or any thing therein contained, shall not extend to prejudice, infringe or make void any power or authority which the Lord General or his Court Marshal may exercise by the Articles of War agreed upon, and allowed by Parliament. And it is lastly Enacted, That Publication shall be made of this Act by sound of Trumpet and beat of Drum, in all places usual within the Cities of London and Westminster, and late Lines of Communication: And that all the Sheriffs of England and Wales, shall at their next respective County-Courts, publish and Proclaim the same; and of their so doing, render an Accompt to the Council of State appointed by Authority of Parliament.

Passed the second of *August*, 1650.

An Act against several Atheistical, Blasphemous and Execrable Opinions Derogatory to the Honor of God, and destructive to Humane Society.

The Parliament holding it to be their Duty, by all good ways and means to propagate the Gospel in this Commonwealth, To advance Religion in all Sincerity, Godliness and Honesty; Have made several
Ordi-

Ordinances and Lawes for the good and furtherance of Reformation, in Doctrine and Maners, and in order to the suppressing of Idolatry, Wickedness, Superstition and Formality, that God may be truly glorified, and all might in Well-doing be encouraged; But notwithstanding this their care, finding to their great grief and astonishment, that there are divers men and Women who have lately discovered themselves to be most monstrous in their Opinions, and loose in all wicked and abominable Practices hereafter mentioned, not onely to the notorious corrupting and disordering, but even to the dissolution of all humane Society; who rejecting the use of any Gospel Ordinances, do deny the necessity of Civil and Moral Righteousness among men: The Parliament therefore, according to their published Declaration of the Twentieth of September, One thousand six hundred forty nine, To be most ready to testify their displeasure and abhorrence of such Offenders, by a strict and effectual proceeding against them, who should abuse and turn into Licentiousness, the Liberty given in matters of Conscience, Do therefore Enact and Ordain, and be it Enacted and Ordained by the Authority of this present Parliament, That all and every person and persons (not distempered with Sickness, or distracted in Brain) who shall presume arrogantly in words to profess, or shall by Writing proceed to affirm and maintain him or herself, or any other mortal Creature, to be very God; or to be Infinite or Almighty, or in Honor, Excellency, Majesty and Power to be Equal, and the same with the true God; or that the true God, or the Eternal Majesty, dwells in the Creature and no where else; or

whosoever shall deny the Holiness and Righte-
 ousness of God; or shall presume as aforesaid
 to profess, That Unrighteousness in persons,
 or the acts of Uncleaness, prophane Swear-
 ing, Drunkenness, and the like Filthiness and
 Brutishness, are not unholy & forbidden in the
 word of God; or that these acts in any person,
 or the persons for committing them, are ap-
 proved of by God; or that such acts, or such
 persons in those things, are like unto God; or
 whosoever shall presume as aforesaid to pro-
 fess, That these acts of denying and Blas-
 pheming God, or the Holiness or Righteous-
 ness of God; or the acts of cursing God, or
 of Swearing prophanely or falsly by the Name
 of God; or the acts of Lying, Stealing Con-
 zening and Defrauding others; or the acts of
 Murther, Adultery, Incest, Fornication, Un-
 cleanness, Sodomy, Drunkenness, filthy and
 lascivious Speaking, are not things in them-
 selves shameful, wicked, sinful, impious, abo-
 minable and detestable in any person, or to be
 practised or done by any person or persons; or
 shall as aforesaid profess, That the Acts of A-
 dultery, Drunkenness, Swearing, and the like
 open wickedness, are in their own nature as
 Holy and Righteous as the Duties of Prayer,
 Preaching, or giving of Thanks to God; or
 whosoever shall avowedly as aforesaid profess,
 That whatsoever is acted by them, whether
 Whoredom, Adultery, Drunkenness, or the
 like open wickedness, may be committed with-
 out sin; or that such acts are acted by the true
 God, or by the Majesty of God, or the Eternity
 that is in them; That Heaven and all Happi-
 ness consists in the acting of those things
 which are Sin and wickedness; or that such
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Men or Women are most perfect, or like to God or Eternity, which do commit the greatest Sins with least remorse or sense; or that there is no such thing really and truly as Unrighteousness, Unholiness or Sin, but as a man or woman judgeth thereof; or that there is neither Heaven nor Hell, neither Salvation nor Damnation, or that these are one and the same thing, and that there is not any distinction or difference truly between them; All and every person or persons so avowedly professing, maintaining or publishing as aforesaid, the aforesaid Atheistical, Blasphemous or Execrable Opinions, or any of them; upon complaint and proof made of the same in any the cases aforesaid, before any one or more Justice or Justices of Peace, Mayor, or other Head Officer of any City or Town Corporate, by the Oath of two or more Witnesses (which Oath the said Justice or Justices and Head Officer have hereby power to administer in all the cases aforesaid) or Confession of the said persons, the party so convicted or confessing, shall be by the said Justice or Justices, or other Head Officer committed to Prison, or to the House of Correction, for the space of six Months, without Bail or Mainprize, and until he or she shall have put in sufficient Sureties to be of Good-Behavior for the space of one whole year: And if any person or persons so convicted as aforesaid, shall at any time afterwards avowedly profess, maintain or publish as aforesaid, any of the aforesaid Atheistical, Blasphemous or Execrable Opinions, upon complaint and proof made of the same before any one or more Justice or Justices of the Peace, Mayor or other Head Officer of any City or Town-

Town Corporate, by the Oath of two or more witnesses (which Oath the said Justice or Justices, or Head-Officer have hereby power to administer) or Confession of the said person, the party so confessing, or against whom proof shall be made as aforesaid, shall be by such Justice or Head-Officer sent to the Common Goal of such County, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until the next Assizes or Goal-Delivery to be held for the said County: And if any such person shall be there convicted, by confession or otherwise, for such aforesaid avowedly professing, maintaining or publishing as aforesaid, any of the Atheistical, Blasphemous or execrable Opinions aforesaid, That then the Judge or Judges before whom such Conviction shall be had as aforesaid, shall have power, and is hereby required to pronounce Sentence of Banishment upon such person so convicted as aforesaid, out of the Commonwealth of England, and all the Dominions thereof; And thereupon every such person and persons so convicted and adjudged as aforesaid, shall depart out of this Commonwealth at such Haven or Port, and within such time as shall be in that behalf assigned & appointed by the said Judge or Justices, unless the same Offender be letted or stayed by such reasonable means or causes, as by the Common Laws of this Nation are allowed and permitted in cases of Absuration for Felony; And in case of such let or stay, then to depart within such reasonable and convenient time after, as the Common Law requireth, as in case of Absuration for Felony as aforesaid; And if any such Offender so convicted and adjudged as aforesaid, shall not go to such Haven, and within such time as is before appointed,

appointed, and from thence depart out of this Commonwealth, according to this present Act; or after such his departure shall return or come again into this Commonwealth, or any the Dominions thereof, without special License of the Parliament in that behalf first had and obtained, That then in every such case the person so offending shall be adjudged a Felon, and shall suffer as in case of Felony, without benefit of Clergy. And to the end this Law may be the more effectually put in execution, & the growth of the aforesaid, and the like abominable and corrupt Opinions and Practices, tending to the Dishonor of God, the Scandal of Christian Religion, and the Professors thereof, and destructive to humane Society, may be prevented and suppressed, Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Justice and Justices of Assize, Justices of Oyer and Terminer, Justices of the Peace and Goal-Delivery, be required and enjoined at their Assizes and Sessions of the Peace in every County, City and Town Corporate respectively, which shall be held next after the publishing of this Act, to cause the same to be openly read and published, and do from time to time give in charge to the Grand Jury, to enquire of, and present the Offences and Neglects aforesaid; which the said Justices of Assize, Justices of Oyer and Terminer, Justices of the Peace and Goal-Delivery, have likewise by vertue of this Act power and authority to hear and determine. And be it lastly Enacted by Authority aforesaid, That the Sheriffs of every County, the Mayors, Bayliffs, or other Head Officer of all and every City, Borough or Town Corporate, be enjoined and required

Within one Week after this Act shall be sent unto them or any of them, to read, or cause the same to be Read and Proclaimed in every City, Borough or Town Corporate, upon the Market-day, and to cause the same to be affixed and set up in the publique places of such City, Borough or Town as is usual and accustomed. Provided always, That no person or persons shall be punished, impeached, molested or troubled for any Offence mentioned in this Act, unless he or she be for the same Offence Accused, Presented, Indicted or Convicted within six Moneths after such Offence committed.

Passed the Ninth of *August*, 1650.

An Act for relief of Religious and Peaceable People from the Rigor of former Acts of Parliament in Matters of Religion.

The Parliament of England taking into consideration several Acts made in the times of former Kings and Queens of this Nation, against Recusants not coming to Church, enjoining the use of Common-Prayer, The keeping and observing of holy-days, and some other particulars touching Matters of Religion; And finding, That by the said Act divers Religious and Peaceable People, well-affected to the prosperity of the Commonwealth, have not onely been molested and imprisoned, but also brought into danger of Abjuring their Countrey, or in case of Return, to suffer Death as Felons, to the great disquiet, and utter ruine of such good and godly People, and to the detriment of the Commonwealth, Do Enact, and be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and by Authority of the same, That all and every the Branches, Clauses, Articles

Articles and Proviso's expressed and contained in the ensuing Acts of Parliament; viz. In the Act of the First of Elizabeth, Entituled, An Act for Uniformity of Prayer, and Administration of Sacraments; And in an Act of the Thirty fifth of Elizabeth, Entituled, An Act for punishing of persons obstinately refusing to come to Church, and perswading others to impugn the Queens Authority in Ecclesiastical Causes; And all and every the Branches, Clauses, Articles and Proviso's contained in an Act of Parliament of the Twenty third of Elizabeth, Entituled, An Act for retaining the Queens Subjects in their due Obedience, hereafter expressed; Be it also further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every person above the Age of Sixteen years, which shall not repair to some Church, Chappel, or usual place of Common-Prayer, but forbear the same, contrary to the Tenor of a Statute made in the first year of her Majesties Reign for Uniformity of Common Prayer, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall forfeit to the Queens Majesty for every Moneth, after the end of this Session of Parliament, which he or she shall so forbear, Twenty pounds of lawful English Money; and that over and besides the said Forfeitures, every person so forbearing by the space of Twelve Moneths as aforesaid, shall for his or her obstinacy, after Certificate thereof in writing made into the Court, commonly called *The Kings Bench*, By the Ordinary of the Diocess, a Justice of Assize and Goal-Delivery, or a Justice of Peace of the County where such Offender shall dwell, or be bound with two sufficient Sureties, in the Sum of Two hundred pounds at the least to the Good Behavior, and so to continue bound, until such time as the persons so bound do conform themselves and come to the Church, according to the true meaning of the said Statute made in the said First year of the Queens Majesties

jesties Reign: And be it further Enacted, That if any person or persons, Body-politique or Corporate, after the Feast of *Pentecost* next coming, shall keep or maintain any School-Master, which shall not repair to Church as is aforesaid, or be allowed by the Bishop or Ordinary of the Diocess where such School-Master shall be so kept; shall forfeit and lose for every Moneth so keeping him, Ten pounds: Provided, That no such Ordinary or their Ministers shall take any thing for the said Allowance: And such School-Master or Teacher presuming to teach contrary to this Act, and being thereof lawfully convict, shall be disabled to be a Teacher of Youth, and shall suffer Imprisonment without Bail or Mainprize for one year: And be it likewise Enacted, That all and every Offences against this Act, or against the Acts of the First, Fifth or Thirteenth years of her Majesties Reign, touching acknowledging of her Majesties Supreme Government in Causes Ecclesiastical, or other Matters touching the Service of God, or coming to Church, or Establishment of true Religion in this Realm, shall and may be enquireable as well before Justices of Peace, or other Justices named in the same Statutes, within one year and a day after every such Offence committed, Any thing in this Act, or in any other Act to the contrary notwithstanding. And all and every the Branches, Clauses, Articles and Proviso's expressed and contained in any other Act or Ordinance of Parliament, Whereby or Wherein any penalty or punishment is imposed, or mentioned to be imposed on any person whatsoever, for not repairing to their respective Parish Churches, or for not keeping of Holy days, or for not hearing Common-Prayer, or for speaking or inveighing against the Book of Common-Prayer, shall be, and are by the Authority aforesaid wholly Repealed and made void. And it is also hereby Enacted and

and Declared, That all proceedings had or made by vertue of any the Clauses, Branches or Articles mentioned and contained in any of the aforesaid Acts, and hereby Repealed, against any such person or persons as aforesaid, shall be fully and wholly superseded, made void and Null. Provided, That this Act, nor any thing therein contained, shall extend to the taking away of any Act or Ordinance made by this present Parliament, concerning The due Observation of the Lords day, Days of Publique Thanksgiving and Humiliation. And to the end that no prophane or licentious persons may take occasion by the Repealing of the said Laws (intended onely for Relief of pious and peaceable minded people from the Rigor of them) to neglect the performance of Religious Duties, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every person and persons within this Commonwealth and the Territories thereof, shall (having no reasonable excuse for their absence) upon every Lords-day, Days of publique Thanksgiving and Humiliation, diligently resort to some publique place where the Service and Worship of God is exercised, or shall be present at some other place in the practice of some Religious Duty, either of Prayer, Preaching, Reading or Expounding the Scriptures, or conferring upon the same. And be it further Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That every person and persons that shall not diligently perform the Duties aforesaid, according to the true meaning hereof (not having reasonable excuse to the contrary) shall be deemed and taken to be Offenders against this Law, and shall be proceeded against accordingly.

Passed the Seven and twentieth of September, 1650.

An Act for the Encouragement and Indempnity of such Persons as voluntarily Engage themselves in the Service of the Parliament in this time of Common Danger.

Whereas divers Well-affected persons in this Commonwealth, to testifie their Faithfulness and good Affection to the present Government, as it is now Established, without a King or House of Lords, have voluntarily tendred themselves, and many of them, their Apprentices and Servants, to be Listed for the Service of the Parliament, and to be in a readines to be drawn out upon actual Service, for the safety of the Parliament, and preservation of the publique Peace; and to form themselves into Regiments and Companies, under such Commanders as the Parliament or the Council of State shall appoint over them; which the Parliament doth Declare to be a seasonable and very acceptable Service, not onely in those persons that List themselves as aforesaid, but likewise in such as give countenance and encouragement to their Apprentices and Servants so to do; And that the said persons do deserve all due encouragement therein, as promoters of the Peace of this Nation, and ought to be indemnified and saved harmless from any damage or prejudice that may by Law be fixed upon them for their absence in any other personal service, Whereunto they may be obliged: Be it therefore Enacted by this present Parliament, and by the Authority of the same, That all such persons as have or shall by vertue of any Commission from the Parliament or Council of State, voluntarily List themselves in the Service of the Parliament, in any Regiment,

giment, Troop or Company as aforesaid, shall be, and are freed, indemnified and discharged of and from any Fine, Mulct, or other punishment which may be inflicted upon them for their not appearing, or not serving in the Trained Bands, during such time as the said persons respectively shall continue and be in the Service of the Parliament in any Regiment, Troop or Company voluntarily raised as aforesaid. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That such of the said persons as are or shall be Apprentices or Servants, their Parents, and such other persons as stand engaged for them, shall be indemnified and saved harmless, for and in respect of the said Service, in as full and ample manner as is Ordained and Declared in An Ordinance of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, bearing date the Seventh day of November, One thousand six hundred forty and two, for the indemnifying of such Apprentices as then were or should be Listed to serve as Soldiers. And to the end the said persons may the more speedily be relieved and indemnified according to the true intent and meaning of this Act, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Commissioners for the Militia in the respective Counties, Cities and places of this Commonwealth, Be, and are hereby constituted and authorized to be Commissioners for the relief of all such persons in the cases aforesaid; which said Commissioners or any three or more of them, are hereby authorized and required to receive, hear and determine all such complaints; and in order thereunto, to summon Parties and Witnesses to appear before them, and to examine Witnesses upon Oath; and to commit
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to safe custody, if they shall see cause, such persons as shall stand out in contempt; and to allow Costs, Charges and Damages to the Parties grieved, as they shall see cause: Provided the same exceed not double so much as the party grieved shall be damaged by any Suit, Prosecution or Molestation in the case aforesaid, and to compel payment of the same by Imprisonment of the person, or sale of the Goods of such persons as stand in contempt; and further to act in the cases aforesaid, as fully and amply as the Committee of Parliament for Indemnity are authorized to do in cases of Indemnity.

Passed the Nineteenth of September, 1650.

An Act Prohibiting Trade with the *Barbada's, Virginia, Bermuda's and Antego.*

Whereas in Virginia, and in the Islands of Barbada's, Antego, St. Christophers, Mevias, Mounfirat, Bermuda's, and divers other Islands and places in America, there hath been and are Colonies and Plantations, which were planted at the cost, and settled by the people, and by Authority of this Nation, which are and ought to be subordinate to, and dependant upon England, and hath ever since the planting thereof been, and ought to be subject to such Laws, Orders and Regulations as are or shall be made by the Parliament of England: And Whereas divers acts of Rebellion have been committed by many persons inhabiting in Barbada's, Antego, Bermuda's and Virginia, Whereby they have most Trayteously, by Force and Subtily, Usurped a Power of Government, and seized the Estates of many Well-

Well-affected persons into their hands, and banished others, and have set up themselves in opposition to, and distinct from this State and Commonwealth; many of the chief Actors in, and Promoters of these Rebellions, having been transported and carried over to the said Plantations in Foreign Ships, without leave, license or consent of the Parliament of England: The Parliament of England taking the premises into consideration, and finding themselves obliged to use all speedy, lawful and just means for the suppression of the said Rebellion in the said Plantations, and reducing the same to Fidelity and due Obedience, so as all peaceable and Well-affected people, who have been robbed, spoiled, imprisoned or banished through the said Treasonable practices, may be restored to the freedom of their persons, and possessions of their own Lands and Goods, and due punishment inflicted upon the said Delinquents, Do Declare all and every the said persons in Barbada's, Antego, Bermuda's and Virginia, that have contrived, abetted, aided or assisted those horrid Rebellions, or have since willingly joyned with them, to be Notorious Robbers and Traytors, and such as by the Law of Nations are not to be permitted any manner of Commerce or Traffique with any people whatsoever; And do forbid to all manner of persons, foreigners and others, all manner of Commerce, Traffique and Correspondency whatsoever, to be used or held with the said Rebels in the Barbada's, Bermuda's, Virginia and Antego, or either of them. And be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and by the Authority of the same, That after due publication of this Act made, to the end that none may justly pretend Ignorance,

rance, It shall and may be lawful to any the
 Fleet or Ships sent forth or imployed by the
 Parliament, or any private Men of War or
 Ships to be allowed or approved in that be-
 half by the immediate Power of Parliament,
 or the Council of State Established by Parli-
 ament, to seize, surprize and take all and all
 manner of Ships, Vessels and Goods, of what
 nature or kinde soever, belonging to all per-
 sons whatsoever, Whether Foreigners or
 others, or of what Nation soever, that shall be
 found or met withal, Trading or going to
 Trade, or coming from Trading with the said
 Rebels, or in or at the said Island of Barbada's,
 Bermuda's, Virginia or Antego aforesaid, or any
 part or parts thereof; or that shall hold any
 Correspondency with the said Rebels, or yield
 them any Assistance or Relief for the support-
 ing their said Rebellion: And the same Ships
 and Goods so surprized, to send in to be pro-
 ceeded against in the Court of Admiralty by
 vertue of this Act; And the Judges of that
 Court finding the same to be within the tenor
 and true meaning of this Act, to Adjudge the
 same to be Well Taken, and to be good and
 lawful Prize. And for the better Information
 of the said Court, and to the end the Proceed-
 ings therein may be acted and done according
 to the Rules of Law and Justice, and that
 nothing irregular may therein, or by the
 Takers, be acted or committed, Be it further
 Enacted, That none of the Goods nor Tackle,
 Apparel or Furniture of the said Ships so to
 be surprized by vertue of this Act, shall be im-
 bezled or purloyned, but shall be preserved safe
 and entire till Judgement be first given in the
 said Court of Admiralty, or other Order or
 Decree

Decree there made thereupon: And that all the Commissions, Consignments, Bills of Lading, Cocquets, Letters, and all other Instruments and Writings whatsoever, that shall be found on Board the said Ships and Vessels, shall be duly sent up to the said Court of Admiralty: And that also two or three of the Officers or principal persons of, or found in every such Ship or Vessel, shall either be brought up to be Examined upon Oath in the said Court, as well touching the said Writings found in the said Ship, and the Proprietors, Owners and Masters of the same Ships, and the Goods therein, and the places from whence they came, and to whom Consigned, and whither bound, and such other Questions and Interrogatories as in each particular case shall be found meet; or otherwise in case they cannot with convenientcy be sent up, That then they be so Examined duly upon Oath, before the chief Officer of some Port in England, or the next Justice of the Peace, concerning the premises before recited; and their Examinations, together with all the Writings found on Board the said Ships or Vessels, to be duly transmitted to the said Court; And the Judges of the said Court thereupon, and upon such other Proofs and Evidences as shall be duly made, or exhibited before them, shall proceed to Judgement, and give definitive Sentence by vertue of this Act, according as the nature of the Fact shall be proved before them, and according to the Rules and Grounds of Justice: And if Judgement shall be given for the same to be lawful Prize, Then it shall be disposed in such sort and manner as is in this present Act afterwards limited and appointed: And
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to prevent for the time to come, and to hinder the carrying over of any such persons as are Enemies to this Commonwealth, or that may prove dangerous to any of the English Plantations in America; The Parliament doth forbid and prohibit All Ships of Any Foreign Nation whatsoever to come to, or Trade in, or Traffique With any of the English Plantations in America, or any Islands, Ports or places thereof, which are planted by, and in possession of the People of this Commonwealth, Without License first had and obtained from the Parliament or Council of State. And be it further Enacted, Ordained and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twentieth day of November, One thousand six hundred and fifty, It shall and may be lawful for any Ship or Ships set forth for the Parliament, or allowed of by the Parliament or Council of State, to seize, take and surprize any Ship or Ships of any Foreign Nation whatsoever, that shall be outward Bound to any of the said Plantations, Ports or places, Without such License as aforesaid; and from and after the First of January, One thousand six hundred and fifty, It shall and may be lawful for such Ships set forth and allowed as aforesaid, to seize, take and surprize any Foreign Ships that shall be found Trading at any of the Plantations, Islands and places aforesaid, Without such License as aforesaid; and from and after the Twentieth day of March, One thousand six hundred and fifty, It shall and may be lawful for any of the Parliaments Ships, or private Men of War, allowed of by the Parliament or Council of State for the time being, to seize, take and surprize
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any Ship or Ships that are coming from, or have Traded at any of the Plantations as aforesaid, Without such License as aforesaid: And all such Ships so taken, With all Goods, Tackle, Apparel and Furniture, to send into some Port of this Commonwealth, to be proceeded against in the Court of Admiralty, as in this Act is ordered, limited and appointed in case of Trading to Barbada's, Antego, Bermudas and Virginia, or any of them; All Which Prizes so to be taken and adjudged by vertue of this Act, shall be disposed of as followeth; that is to say, Of what shall be taken by the Ships set forth by the Parliament, Two thirds thereof to be to the use of the Commonwealth, for the Service of the Navy, as the Parliament shall direct; and one other Third part to be to the Commanders, Officers and Company of those Ships by Whom the same shall be taken respectively, according to the usual Rules of Division amongst them: And for what shall be taken by private Men of War allowed as aforesaid, to be to the use of the Owners or Setters forth of the said Ships, as they themselves shall agree, one Tenth part of the Whole, heretofore allowable to the Lord Admiral, being first taken out, to be disposed by the Council of State, for such uses as the Parliament shall direct and appoint. Provided always, That if any Prize or Prizes so taken, or any part thereof, shall appear, and be proved in the said Court of Admiralty to be any Ship or Goods belonging to any of the Well-affected and good people of this Commonwealth, remaining and continuing under the Obedience and Protection of the Parliament, and before taken or surprised from them by any Enemy or Rebel,

or disaffected person, and afterwards again surprised and retaken by any of the Fleet or Ships imployed in the Service of the Parliament, or any private Man of War, allowed as aforesaid, That then such Ships and Goods, and every such part and parts belonging to the said good people aforesaid, shall be adjudged to be restored, and shall be by Decree of the said Court of Admiralty accordingly restored to such former Owner or Owners, paying for and in lieu of Salvage, onely one Eighth part of the true value thereof; unless such Ships so retaken shall appear to have been after their taking by the Enemy, or Rebels, or Disaffected, furnished and set forth by them as Men of War on their behalf: In which case the true and first Owners to whom the same shall be restored, shall be adjudged to pay, and shall pay for Salvage the full Voyety of the true value of the said Ships so retaken and restored. Provided nevertheless, and it is further Enacted, That the Councel of State for the time being have hereby Power to grant License and Leave to any of the Ships of this Nation to go to, and Trade at Barbado's, Antego, Bermuda's, Virginia, or any of them, without prejudice or damage, Any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding. And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Councel of State have hereby Power and Authority to send Ships to any of the Plantations aforesaid, and to grant Commission or Commissions to such person or persons as they shall think fit, with power to enforce all such to obedience as do or shall stand in opposition to the Parliament or their Authority; and to grant Pardons, and to settle Governours in
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all or any the said Islands, Plantations and places, and to do all just things, and use all lawful means to settle and preserve them in peace and safety, until the Parliament shall take further or other order therein, Any Letters Patents, or other Authority formerly granted or given to the contrary notwithstanding. And to the end that due intimation and publication of this Act may be made, and publique notice thereof be taken, so that none may justly plead excuse through Ignorance of the same, Be it Ordered and Enacted, That this present Act shall be published by the Sergeant at Arms attending the Parliament, three several days upon the Exchange London, at the time of the Concourse of Merchants thither.

Passed the third of October, 1650.

An Act touching Corn and Meal.

FOrasmuch as of late time there hath been great spoil and destruction made of Wheat, and other Corn and Grain of all sorts, and converting the same into Meal and Flower, and selling the same in private Houses, Warehouses and Shops, without bringing of the same into common and publique Markets; Be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and by Authority thereof, That from and after the Twentieth day of November, One thousand six hundred and fifty, no maner of person directly or indirectly, by himself or others, shall buy any Wheat or other Grain, with intent to put the same to sale in Meal, Flower, or otherwise, but such onely who shall to that purpose obtain a License, granted in the open Sessions of the Peace,

Peace, and signed and Sealed With the proper Hands and Seals of five or more Justices of the Peace then sitting, for such City, County or place Where such sale shall be made, upon pain and forfeiture of treble the value of the said Grain or Meal, and two Moneths Imprisonment, Without Bail or Mainprize. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Meal shall from the said Twentieth day of November, One thousand six hundred and fifty, be sold in any Shops, Houses, Warehouses, or other places Within the City of London, or Within Twenty miles thereof; Nor from and after the Twentieth day of February One thousand six hundred and fifty, in any other City, Town, Borough, or other place Within this Commonwealth, in any Shops, Houses, Warehouses or other places, but onely in the common publique Market-place usual for that purpose, upon the like pain and forfeiture as aforesaid. And be it further Enacted, That no Meal shall be sold, but in the same quality and condition as the same goes truly and really from the Mill, Without any mixture Whatsoever; And also that no person shall use any Boulting Mill, or other Instrument for Dressing, Boulting or Sifting any Corn or Grain Whatsoever, With intent to sell the same in Meal or Flower, upon the like pain and forfeiture as aforesaid: All Which said Forfeitures shall and may be recovered by Bill, Plaint, Indictment or Information in any Court of Record, by any person who will sue for the same; the one moyety thereof to such person suing, besides his Costs in prosecuting the same, and the other moyety to the Poor of the Parish Where the Offence shall be committed: Pro-
vided

vided such Bill, Plaint, Indictment or Information, be had or commenced within Six Moneths after the Offence done or committed: Provided also, such License as is aforesaid, shall not be granted, but upon the parties first entring into Security by Bond or Recognizance, well and truly to obserbe and perform in all things the Provisions in this Act mentioned, according to the true intent and meaning thereof. And be it further Enacted and Declared, That the buying of Corn, to the intent to sell the same in Meal or Flower, without License obtained as aforesaid, shall be adjudged, reputed and taken an unlawful Ingrossing, and the offender and offenders therein shall be punished as Ingrossers of Corn and other dead Victual are punished by the Statute of 5 & 6 Edw. 6. Entituled, Who shall be adjudged a Foretaller, who a Regrator, and who an Ingrosser, and the punishment of them. And because the punishment of many abuses are daily prevented, and Prosecutors discouraged by the familiar bringing of Writs of Certiorari, and Writs of Habeas Corpus in Indictments, Actions and Informations commenced upon Penal Laws; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Twentieth day of November, One thousand six hundred and fifty, no Writ of Certiorari or Habeas Corpus shall be granted or allowed in any Action, Bill, Plaint, Indictment or Information, commenced or to be commenced upon this or any other penal Law, concerning the buying, selling, searching, viewing, ordering or disposing of any Corn, Wine, Beer, Ale, Fish, Flesh, Salt, Butter, Cheese, or other dead Victual whatsoever; But that the granting or allow-

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ing the said writs in the Cases aforesaid, shall be utterly void and Null; And all Judges, Justices, Stewards of Courts, Prosecutors, Plaintiffs and Informers, and all other persons interested therein, or who have cognizance thereof, shall and may proceed as if the said writ of Certiorari or writ of Habeas Corpus had never been granted or allowed, Any Law, Statute, Usage or Custom to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. And for ease of pleading to all manner of persons which shall or may be sued upon this Act, or for any other matter, cause or thing whatsoever, in any Court of Record within the Commonwealth of England; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Twentieth day of November, One thousand six hundred and fifty, it shall and may be lawful, to and for any person or persons, Defendant or Tenant, for or by reason of any matter to be pleaded, set forth or alledged in Bar to any Action Real, Personal or Mirt, that shall be commenced in any of the Courts aforesaid, to plead the General Issue of Not guilty, or the like General Issue proper to the nature of the Action or Suit commenced; and for his or their Discharge or Acquitting, to give any such matter in Evidence to the Jury that shall try the same, and the said matter shall be as available to such person or persons, Defendant or Tenant, to all intents and purposes, as if the said matter had been specially pleaded, set forth or alledged in Bar of such Action, Any Law, Statute, Usage or Custom to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Passed the Three and twentieth of *October*, 1650.

An Act prohibiting Trade to SCOTLAND.

FOrasmuch as the Parliament and Kingdom of Scotland, having by their late perfidious Invasion, in the year One thousand six hundred forty eight, and other their Injurious Practises and Designs against this State and Commonwealth, Annulled the League and Treaties made betwixt them and this Nation, and thereby have rendred it just and necessary for this Commonwealth to send an Army into that Kingdom, which is now done accordingly; and for that by the Law of Nations, no assistance ought to be afforded to any Enemy to support them in so unjust a Cause as that of the Scottish Nation now is; and to the end all Foreigners concerned may take due notice hereof, The Parliament doth Declare and Enact, and be it Declared and Enacted by this present Parliament, & by the Authority of y^e same, That if any persons, Foreigners of any Foreign Nation whatsoever, shall adhere unto the said Scottish Nation, shall send any Ships, with Commanders, Forces, Soldiers, Arms, Ammunition, Victuals, or any manner of prohibited or Contrabanda Goods to or for the Scots, or to be Transported or Unladen in Scotland, in assistance of that Nation against this Commonwealth, during this War, that they and every of them shall be taken and held as Enemies to this Commonwealth, and their Goods made Confiscable: And that it shall be lawful to and for any of the Fleet or Ships set forth, or to be set forth by or under the Parliament, or any private Men of War, or Ships to be approved of by the immediate power of Parliament, or by the Council of State established by Parliament, to seize, surprize and take all
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and all maner of Ships and Vessels Whatsoever, together with all the Goods therein belonging to any person Whatsoever, either Foreigner or other; or of What Foreign Nation soever, which they shall finde or meet withal transporting or carrying any Commanders, Forces, Soldiers, Arms, Ammunition, Gunpowder, Shot, Money, Victuals, or any maner of Prohibited or Contrabanda Goods Whatsoever, to or for the Scotch Army or Nation, or Consigned for Scotland, or to be Unladen there, in support or assistance of the Scotch against this Commonwealth, whilst in Enmity with this Nation; and the same Ships and Goods to send in to be proceeded against in the Court of Admiralty, and there to procure to be adjudged Confiscate and lawful Prize, according to the Rules of Law and Justice: And to the end there may be a faire, just and legal proceeding thereupon in the said Court of Admiralty, Be it Enacted, That no Captain, nor any other Officers or Mariners that so shall take such Prize or Prizes, shall embezel, nor suffer to be embezzled, purloined or taken away, any of the Tackle, Apparel, Furniture or Goods of or in any such Ships or Vessels so taken as prize, but shall cause the same to be preserved safe, whole and entire, until Judgement shall first be given thereupon in the said Court of Admiralty, or other Order or Decree made or given by that Court thereupon. And for the better Information of that Court, and true stating of the Fact, Be it likewise Enacted, That all and singular Commissions, Letters of Mart, Patent, Consignment, Bills of Lading, Charters, Coquets, Letters, and all other Instruments and Writings Whatsoever that shall be found
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aboard any of the said Ships or Vessels, or taken with or in the hands, or upon any of the persons in the same, shall be duly preserved and sent up, or transmitted and delivered in to the said Court of Admiralty; and that also two or three of the Officers or principal persons of, or found in every such Ship or Vessel, shall either be brought up to be examined upon Oath in the said Court, as well touching the said Writings found in the said Ships, and the Proprietors, and Owners and Masters of the same Ships, and the Goods therein, and the places from whence they came, and to whom Consigned, and whither Bound, and such other Questions and Interrogatories as in each particular Case shall be found meet; or otherwise, in case they cannot with conveniency be sent up, That then they be so examined duly upon Oath before the chief Officer of some Port in England, or the next Justice of Peace, concerning the premises before recited; and their Examinations, together with all the Writings found aboard the said Ships, to be duly transmitted to the said Court. And it is further Enacted, That the Judges of the said Court, upon perusal of the said Examinations and Writings so transmitted unto them, and such other Proofs and Evidences as shall be duly made or exhibited before them in the said Causes, proceed to Judgement, and in all Cases made Confiscable or Prize by this Act, shall by definitive Sentence adjudge the same so to be Confiscated, and to be good and lawful Prize accordingly; and being so adjudged, shall be disposed in maner following; that is to say, Two thirds thereof to be to the use of the Commonwealth, for the Service of the Navy,

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as the Parliament shall direct, and one other Third part to be to the Commanders, Officers and Company of those Ships by Whom the same shall be taken respectively, according to the usual Rules of Division among them, One Tenth part of the whole heretofore allowable to the Lord Admiral, being first taken out, to be disposed by the Council of State for such uses as the Tenths are limited and directed by the former Act of this present Parliament, made the Seventeenth of April, One thousand six hundred forty nine. Provided always, That if any Prize or Prizes so taken, or any part thereof, shall appear, and be proved in the said Court of Admiralty to be any Ship or Goods belonging to any of the well-affected and good people of this Commonwealth, remaining and continuing under the Obedience and Protection of the Parliament, and before taken or surpris'd from them by any Enemy or Rebel, or disaffected persons, and afterwards again surpris'd and retaken by any of the Fleet or Ships employ'd in the Service of the Parliament, or any private Men of War allowed as aforesaid, That then the said good people aforesaid shall be adjudged to be restored, and shall be by Decree of the said Court of Admiralty accordingly restored to such former Owner or Owners, paying for and in lieu of Salvage, onely one Eighth part of the clear value thereof, unless such Ships so retaken, shall appear to have been, after their taking by the Enemy, or Rebels, or disaffected, furnished and set forth by them as Men of War on their behalf; in which case the true and first Owners, to Whom the same shall be restored, shall be adjudged to pay, and shall pay for Salvage the full

full moyety of the true value of the said Ships so retaken and restored. And to the end that due intimation and publication of this Act may be made, and publique notice thereof be taken, so as none may justly plead Excuse through Ignorance of the same, Be it Ordered and Enacted, That this present Act shall be published by the Sergeant at Arms attending the Parliament, three severall days upon the Exchange London, at the time of the Merchants Concourse thither.

Passed the Sixth of November, 1650.

An Act for easing the charge of Lords of Manors or Liberties, and their Bailiffs, in passing their Accompts in the Court of the Publique Exchequer.

Whereas severall Charters of Manors or Liberties have been heretofore granted to Archbishops, Bishops, Deans, Deans and Chapters, and to divers other persons, whose severall Rights, Titles and Interests therein, either by Ordinances or Acts of Parliament have been settled and vested in Trustees, and by them conveyed away, or otherwise have by Descent or mean Conveyances, come to severall other persons; by which Charters there are Granted to the Lords and Owners of the said Manors or Liberties, All Fines, Post-fines, Issues and Amerciaments, and divers other casual Profits and Emoluments, happening, accruing and arising within the said Manors or Liberties, to their own proper uses, which ought to be duly certified and estreated into the Court of the Publique Exchequer, and there set over to the Lords and Owners of the said Manors or Liberties, for the

the easing of the said Lords and Owners, and such others as shall hereafter become Owners or Purchasers of the said Manors and Liberties, and their Bayliffs, in the charge of passing their Accompts for the same in the said Court for the future, Be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and the Authority thereof, That from and after the Thre and twentieth day of October, One thousand six hundred and fifty, No Officer or Clerk of the said Court of Exchequer shall demand, receive or take of any Lord or Owner of any Manor or Liberty, or of his or their Bayliff, any other or greater Fee or Fees, for or by reason of his or their yearly Accompt, then as are hereafter in this present Act limited and appointed; that is to say, For the Warrant of Attorney for taking the Bayliffs Oath, Eight pence; For administering the Oath, Four pence; To the Foreign Opposer for his Fee for every Liberty, Six shillings eight pence; To him for every Schedule ad Colligendum, Two shillings; To his chief Clerk for every Liberty, Twenty pence; To the Clerk of the Estreats for every Liberty, Three shillings and four pence, and for the Seal for the Green Wax, Four pence; To the Clerk of the Pipe for examining the Accompt, and Signing the Quierus est, Twelve pence, and to his Clerk for Ingrossing the Quierus est, One shilling six pence; To the Sworn Clerk that putteth in the Proffer, Twelve pence for every Proffer: And if any Officer or Clerk shall demand, receive or take any other or greater Fee or Fees then as aforesaid, for and in respect of any such Bayliffs Accompt, he or they so demanding, taking or receiving, or neglecting, upon tender of the said

said Fees to the said Officer or Clerk, to perform their respective Duties, to the speedy passing of the said Accompts, and setting over unto the respective Owners of the said Manors and Liberties, what belongs unto them as aforesaid, shall for every such Offence lose and forfeit the sum of Ten pounds to the Lord or Owner of the said Manor or Liberty, to be recovered by Action of Debt at the Common Law. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That no Clerk of Assize, or Clerk of the Peace do or shall, from and after the Eight and twentieth day of November, One thousand six hundred and fifty, take off any Fine or Amerciament, unless it be by Rule or Order in Court, or by Warrant first had and obtained from and under the Hand or Hands of such Judge or Judges as set the same, but shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the sum of ten pounds, The one moyety thereof to the benefit of the Commonwealth, and the other moyety to such person or persons as shall or will sue for the same by Action of Debt, in which no Wager of Law shall be allowed. And be it also Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Clerk of Assize, Clerk of the Peace, and Clerks to any Commission of Sewers, do truly and duly estreat and certifie (into the said Court of Exchequer) All Fines, Issues, Amerciaments and Forfeitures whatsoever, that are or hereafter shall be set or imposed upon any person or persons by any Judge or Judges of Assize in their several Circuits, or by any Justices of the Peace at the several Quarter Sessions, or by any Commissioners of Sewers, or that shall happen before them or any of them, and shall not

be moderated or discharged during the same Sessions in open Court, or that shall not be moderated or discharged by the Judge or Judges that set the same the next Term after such Fine, Issue or Amerciaments set or imposed; and that all and every the Officers and Clerks of the Courts of Westminster Hall, to whom it shall appertain, do likewise from time to time truly and duly estreat into the said Court of Exchequer, All Fines, Post-fines, Issues, Amerciaments and Forfeitures that are or shall be forfeited by, lewyed or set upon any person or persons before, or by any Judge or Judges of the said Courts respectively, and shall not be moderated or discharged as aforesaid; And every person and persons making default herein, shall for every such Default lose and forfeit treble the value of such Fine, Post-fine, Issue, Amerciament or Forfeiture concealed, or not certified by him or them as aforesaid, The one moyety thereof to the benefit of the Commonwealth, and the other moyety to any person or persons that shall or will sue for the same. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Lord or Owner of any Manor or Liberty shall after the Inrolment of his Charter of Liberties, or of his Deed or Grant whereby he claimeth the same, in the said Court of Exchequer, be compelled to plead the said Charter of Liberties, or Deed, or Grant, either in the said Court of Exchequer, or in the Upper Bench, but that upon producing of such Charter of Liberties, Deed or Grant so Inrolled, or the Exemplification thereof, the Court shall proceed therein, as if the same had been pleaded. Provided, That this Act, nor any thing there-
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in contained, shall not extend, nor be construed to extend to the establishing or confirming of any pretended Liberties, Priviledges or Franchises, which have not been exercised and enjoyed by any Lord of such Liberty or Franchise within Ten years before the beginning of this present Parliament.

Passed the seventh of *November*, 1650.

An Act for turning the Books of the Law, and all Proces and Proceedings in Courts of Justice, into English.

The Parliament have thought fit to Declare and Enact, and be it Declared and Enacted by this present Parliament, and by the Authority of the same, That all the Report Books of the Resolutions of Judges, and other Books of the Law of England, shall be Translated into the English Tongue: And that from and after the First day of January, One thousand six hundred and fifty, All Report Books of the Resolutions of Judges, and all other Books of the Law of England, which shall be Printed, shall be in the English Tongue onely.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the First Return of Easter Term, which shall be in the year One thousand six hundred fifty and one, All Writs, Proces and Returns thereof, and all Pleadings, Rules, Orders, Indictments, Inquisitions, Certificates; and all Patents, Commisisions, Records, Judgements, Statutes, Recognizances, Rolls, Entries, and Proceedings of Courts Leet, Courts Baron, and Customary Courts, and all Proceedings whatsoever in any Courts of Justice within
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this Commonwealth, and which concerns the Law, and Administration of Justice, shall be in the English Tongue onely, and not in Latine or French, or any other Language then English, Any Law, Custom or Usage heretofore to the contrary notwithstanding; And that the same, and every of them, shall be written in an ordinary, usual and legible Hand and Character, and not in any Hand commonly called Court-hand.

And be it lastly Enacted and Ordained, That all and every person and persons offending against this Law, shall for every such Offence lose and forfeit the full sum of twenty pounds of lawful English money; the one moiety thereof to the use of the Commonwealth, and the other moiety to such person and persons as will sue for the same in any Court of Record, by Action of Debt, Suit, Bill, Plaint or Information; in which no Wager of Law, Essoign, or other Delay shall be admitted or allowed.

Passed the Two and twentieth of November, 1650.

An Act for *George Manby* to prohibit any to make use of his Invention for the Boiling all sorts of Liquors, for Fourteen Years.

Whereas *George Manby* hath in long continuance of time, and by his great cost, charges and labor, found out a New Invention to prevent the great consumption of Coal and Wood, and also of Iron, Lead and Copper, used for the Boiling of all sort of Liquors in Brewhouses, Saltworks, and other works of that kinde; Whereby sufficient Quantities of Salt will be made within a short time to serve this Nation, Without the

the help of Foreigners, at much cheaper Rates then heretofore have been; Be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and by Authority thereof, That the said George Manby, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, shall have and enjoy the sole use of his Invention, in the making of Salt; and in Brewing and Boiling any Quantities of Liquor, for and during the term of Fourteen years, from the First day of September, Anno Dom. One thousand six hundred and fifty: And that no person or persons, Bodies Politique or Corporate, shall make use of his said Inventions within the Commonwealth of England or Ireland, in any Occupation or Manufacture, during the said time. Provided, That all and every person and persons may use such ways and works as they have used to do, or otherwise, so as they make not use of the said Invention. And provided, That it shall be lawful to, and for every such person and persons, their Executors, Administrators and Assigns onely, Whom the said George Manby, and George Gray the elder Esquire, their Executors and Administrators, shall hereafter joyntly allow of, and appoint in Writing under Hand and Seal, to make use of such New Inventions in any Occupation or Manufacture, according to the tenor of such Allowance and Appointment, and for none else nor otherwise. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall make use of the said Invention, in the making of Salt. Brewing or Boiling of Liquor, or any other Occupation, and Proof be thereof made by the Oath of two or more Witnesses, to be taken before two or more Justices of the Peace within the County,

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City,

City, Borough, Town Corporate, or Priviledge place within the Commonwealth of England or Ireland, Where the Fact shall be done; which the said Justices of the Peace have hereby power, and are upon complaint required to administer, That then such Vessels and Works shall be broken and pulled down by warrant of such Justices of the Peace: And the said George Manby, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, shall and may bring in his or their Action of Debt against any person or persons, Bodies Politique or Corporate, offending herein, within any Court of Record, for the penalty of Ten pounds lawful English Money for setting up of such Works, and Twenty shillings for every days using or continuing any Vessel or Work by the said George Manby invented as aforesaid, and to him, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, hereby granted to be solely used for the term aforesaid; In which Action shall be no Essoign, Wager of Law, Priviledge, or other Delay whatsoever allowed or permitted; And wherein the said George Manby, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns shall also recover his Costs of Suit and Damages sustained. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action shall be brought against any Justice or Justices of Peace, or other Officer or person concerning what they shall do in execution of the premises, Every such person shall have benefit of the Statutes made in that behalf, as in other cases wherein they act as Justices of the Peace, and under their command.

Passed the Seven and twentieth of November, 1650.

An Act enabling the Lords Commissioners for Custody of the Great-Seal, to issue Commissions of Delegates in Cases of pretended MARRIAGES.

Whereas the Parliament hath been en-
 formed, That Jane Puckering, (daugh-
 ter and Heir of Sir Thomas Puckering
 Knight and Baronet, deceased) was against
 her Will seized upon in Greenwich Park, and
 carried over Sea to Dunkirk and Newport, and
 other parts in Flanders, by Joseph Welch and his
 Agents and Complices, and Words wrested
 from her by the said Welch and his Agents, by
 Threats and Menaces by him and them wic-
 kedly used to her while she was in their power;
 Upon pretence and colour whereof, the said
 Welch did publish in Flanders and elsewhere, That
 he was married to the said Jane, and that she
 was his wife. to her extreme damage and hin-
 drance: The Parliament being willing that
 the whole matter be duly examined, and Right
 done according to the Truth and Merit of the
 Case, Do Enact, and be it Enacted by this pre-
 sent Parliament, That the Lords Commis-
 sioners for the Great-Seal of England for the
 time being, shall and may, and are hereby En-
 abled to Grant one or more Commissions under
 the Great Seal, to such discreet and able per-
 sons as they shall think fit; Which said Com-
 missioners or any three or more of them, shall
 have full Power and Authority to send out
 Summons to convene the said Joseph Welch,
 and such others, as they shall finde meet, before
 them; at the Suit of the said Jane Puckering;
 and to proceed against him, as well in case he or
 they shall make default being duly summoned,
 as where he or they shall appear; and admit the
 Libels,

Libels, Allegations and Proofs upon Oath upon the Merits of the said cause on behalf of the said Jane Puckering : And upon consideration thereof, and of the Allegations, Defences, Pleadings and Proofs upon Oath of the said Joseph Welch, if he shall appear, and think fit to alledge or plead, or make any proofs on his behalf ; or otherwise upon his not appearing, withdrawing, or not pleading, Then in his default to assign the cause to Sentence and Judgement ; And upon full and deliberate weighing of the whole Matter, and what Proofs shall be made in the said Cause, to hear, and definitively to Adjudge, Sentence and Determine the same, for the annulling and making void the said pretended Marriage, as the Right in that case shall require, and to give their final Sentence and Judgement upon the premises.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Woman hath been or shall be by force seized on or carried away against her Will ; or hath or shall have Words wrested from her, either in this Nation or beyond the Seas, Whereupon a Marriage with any person is or shall be pretended ; In all such cases, upon complaint made to the Lords Commissioners for the Great-Seal of England for the time being on behalf of such Woman, the said Lords Commissioners shall and may, and are hereby authorized and required to grant like Commissions to such discreet and able persons as they shall think fit to appoint, to send out Summons, and convene the persons before them : And whether the Defendants appear, or withdraw themselves and stand in contempt, To proceed and admit the Libels, Allegations and

and Proofs upon Oath upon the Merits of the Cause on behalf such Woman; and to hear and definitively Determine the said Matter, either for the affirming or annulling and making void the said pretended Marriage, as the Right in that case shall require; and to give their final Sentence & Judgement thereupon: Provided, That this Act shall not extend to the diminishing or alteration of the Statutes of 3 Hen. 7. Entituled, The Penalty of carrying a Woman away against her will that hath Lands or Goods; or of the Statute of 39 Eliz. Entituled, He that taketh away a Woman against her will that hath Lands or Goods, or is Heir Apparent to her Ancestors, shall lose his Clergy; or to any other Act or Law now in being for the punishment of such Offender or Offenders; But they and every of them be and remain in full force and effect, to all intents and purposes against him or them, as if this Act had never been made.

Passed the Tenth of *January*, 1650.

An Act for taking away the Fee of Damage Cleer.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, And by the Authority of the same, That all Fees called Damage Cleer, or Damna Clericorum, be from and after the First day of January, One thousand six hundred and fifty, utterly forborn and taken away; And that no such Fee, Sum of Money, or any thing in lieu thereof, be from and after the said day Demanded or Received by any Officer, Minister, or any other person belonging to any Court of Justice within this Commonwealth.

Passed the Seventeenth of *January*, 1650.

An Act for a Seal of the Parliament of the Commonwealth
of ENGLAND.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, That the Seal Engraven With the Arms of England and Ireland (that is to say, A Cross and a Harp) With this Inscription in the Circle, That is to say, (The Seal of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of *England*) shall be the Seal of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England, to be onely used by Order of Parliament. And be it further Enacted, That whosoever shall counterfeit the same, shall be adjudged and taken to be guilty of High Treason, and shall be tryed in such maner, and undergo the like penalties as are appointed by any Act of Parliament in case of High Treason.

Passed the Two and twentieth of *January*, 1650.

An Act for continuance of the Customs until the 26th of
March, in the Year 1653.

Whereas there was passed an Ordinance of Parliament, Entituled, An Ordinance of Parliament concerning the Subsidy of Tonnage and Poundage, to continue from the First day of July, One thousand six hundred forty two, until the First of March then next ensuing; which said Ordinance by a later of the One and twentieth of January, One thousand six hundred forty two, was Ordered to stand and continue in force until the Six and twentieth of March, One thousand six hundred forty four; and from thence by several Ordinances of the Eighteenth of September, One thousand six hundred forty three, the One and twentieth

twentieth of February, One thousand six hundred forty four, the Thirteenth of March, One thousand six hundred forty six, and the Sixteenth of December, One thousand six hundred forty seven, the same are continued in force till the Six and twentieth of March, One thousand six hundred fifty one : The Parliament taking into their serious consideration the great Necessity of setting forth and maintaining considerable Fleets, not onely for securing of Trade, but also for the safeguard of this Commonwealth in these times of imminent Danger against all Foreign Invasion, which will necessarily require great Sums of Money, which cannot be supplied and provided for, but by the Collections and Duties arising upon Goods and Merchandizes Exported out of, and Imported into this Commonwealth, Do Enact and Ordain, and be it Enacted and Ordained by this present Parliament, and by the Authority of the same, That the said last recited Ordinance of the Sixteenth of December, One thousand six hundred forty seven, together with the Book of Rates agreed on by the Parliament, and by their Order published in Print, and all and every the Articles and Instructions in the said Ordinance and Book of Rates specified therein, shall stand and continue in full force and power from the five and twentieth day of March, One thousand six hundred fifty one, inclusive, for and until the Twenty sixth of March, which shall be in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred fifty and three, exclusive; And that the Commissioners and Collectors for the time being, their Deputy and Deputies, are hereby enabled and authorized to Collect and Receive the said Duties which
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now are, or at any time hereafter shall be payable or paid for Tonnage and Poundage, or otherwise for and in respect of Goods and Merchandizes Exported out of, or Imported into the Port of London, and all other Ports within this Commonwealth of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed; or for or by reason of any Forfeitures or Compositions of or for any Coin, Bullion, Goods or Merchandize Customable, or prohibited, by vertue of the said Ordinance, or any Act or Ordinance of Parliament, in such manner as the same have been formerly received by any of the late Commissioners of the Customs, or ought to be received by the Commissioners and Collectors of the Customs for the time being, by vertue of this or any other Act or Ordinance of Parliament. And be it further Enacted, That any two of the Barons of the Exchequer, or any one of them, together with the Attorney-General or the Solicitor-General, or either of them, shall have power to Compound for all Seizures and Forfeitures made by vertue of the said Ordinance, or any other Act or Ordinance of Parliament.

Passed the Eleventh of *March*, 1650.

An Act concerning the New Invention of Melting down Iron and other Mettals with Stone-Coal and other Coals, without Charking thereof.

Whereas Jeremy Buck of Minchinhampton in the County of Gloucester Esquire, by a New Invention doth undertake to melt or cause to be melted down, Iron, Lead, Tin, Copper, Brasse, and other Mettals, with Stone-Coal, Pit-Coal or Sea-Coal, without Charking thereof; Be it therefore Enacted by
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this present Parliament, and by the Authority thereof, That the said Jeremy Buck, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, and such as he or they or any of them, by Writing under his, their or any of their Hands and Seals, shall from time to time appoint (and none other) shall and may use, exercise and enjoy the Art, Skill and Mystery of melting down Iron, Ore and Sinders into Raw Iron, and of other Ore and Metall, with Stone-Coal, Pit-Coal or Sea-Coal, without Charking thereof; and the sole and onely benefit of his New Invention aforesaid, for and during the term of Fourteen years, from the First day of March in the year of our Lord God One thousand six hundred and fifty. And that no person or persons, Bodies Politique or Corporate whatsoever, shall make use of the said New Invention within the Commonwealth of England, or any the Dominions thereof, during the said time of Fourteen years. Provided always, and it is hereby Declared and Enacted, That all and every person and persons may use such Ways and Works for melting down any Iron, Ore, Sinder, or other Mettals, as they now use, or have heretofore lawfully used to do, or any other Way or Works hereafter by them newly to be invented, so as they make not use of the said New Invention of him the said Jeremy Buck. And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every person offending against this Act, for every day Wherein such Offence shall be committed, shall forfeit and lose to the said Jeremy Buck, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns respectively, the Sum of Ten pounds, in the name of a Pain or Penalty to be recovered by the said

Jeremy Buck, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, by Action of Debt to be grounded upon this Act, in any Court of Record within this Commonwealth, where any Action of Debt now doth, or shall hereafter be Triable, together with Damages for Non-payment thereof, and Costs of Suit; in which Action of Debt, or for the staying Whereof, no Essoign, Wager of Law, Protection or Injunction, or any other means of Delay, shall or may be granted, admitted or allowed. Provided also, That the said Jeremy Buck and his Assigns, after Seven years of the term hereby granted, do and shall take Apprentices and teach them the Knowledge and Mystery of the said New Invention.

Passed the second of *April*, 1651.

An Additional Act concerning the Proceedings of
the Law in English.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, And by the Authority thereof, That the Translation into English of all Writs, Proses and Returns thereof, and of all Patents, Commissions, and all Proceedings whatsoever in any Courts of Justice within this Commonwealth of England, and which concerns the Law and Administration of Justice, to be made and framed into the English Tongue, according to an Act, Entituled, An Act for Turning the Books of the Law, and all Proses and Proceedings in Courts of Justice into English, be, and are hereby referred to the Speaker of the Parliament, The Lords Commissioners of the Great-Seal of England, The Lord Chief Justice of the Upper Bench, The

The Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer for the time being, or any two or more of them; and what shall be agreed by them or any two or more of them in Translating the same, the Lords Commissioners shall and may affix the Great-Seal thereunto, in cases where the same is to be fixed: And also that Mistranslation, or Variation in Form by reason of Translation, or part of Proceedings or Pleadings already begun, being in Latin and part in English, shall be no Error, nor void any Proceedings by reason thereof.

Provided, That the said recited Act shall not extend to the certifying beyond the Seas any Case or Proceedings in the Court of Admiralty; But that in such Cases the Commissions and Proceedings may be certified in Latin, as formerly have been.

Passed the Ninth of *April*, 1651.

Tuesday the Twenty seventh of *May*, 1651.

Resolved upon the Question by the Parliament,

That all Recognizances for the Peace, Good Behavior or Appearances returned into the Exchequer, or forfeited, and which are or may be put into Proces; and all Amerciaments in that Court, and all Fines and Amerciaments in the late Star-Chamber and High Commission Court, which are or may be levied as due to the Commonwealth at any time before the Thirtieth day of January, One thousand six hundred forty and eight, when this Commonwealth was Restored to its Freedom and Liberties, be absolutely discharged, and that no further Proces, Seizure

or Proceedings be had in the Court of Exchequer touching the same. And that all and every Sheriff and other Officers do forbear to make any further Levies of any Sum or Sums of Money, upon any such forfeited Recognizances, Fines, Issues or Amerciaments. And the Barons of the Court of Exchequer are to take notice hereof, and give order that the same be observed; and that the Discharges be Entered upon the Records thereof.

Thursday the Twenty fourth of July, 1651.

Resolved by the Parliament,

That all Primers formerly used in the time of Kingship in this Nation be suppressed, and shall from henceforth be no further used in any School, either Publique or Private, within this Commonwealth.

An Act Prohibiting any person to take above the Rate of Six Pounds for Loan of One hundred pounds for a Year.

Whereas at this time there is a very great Abatement in the value of Land, and other the Merchandize, wares and Commodities of this Commonwealth, both at home and also in Foreign parts whither they are Transported: And Whereas divers of this Commonwealth, both for their urgent and necessary occasions; for the following their Trades, Maintenance of their Stocks and Employments, have borrowed, and do borrow divers Sums of Money, wares, Merchandize and other Commodities; but by reason of the said general Fall and
abatement

abatement of the value of Land, and the prizes of the said Merchandize, Wares and Commodities, and Interest in Loan continuing at so high Rate, as Eight pounds in the Hundred pounds for a year, doth not onely make men unable to pay their Debts, and continue the maintenance of Trade; but their Debts daily increasing, they are enforced to sell their Lands and Stocks at very low Rates, to forsake the use of Merchandize and Trade, and to give over their Leases and Farms, and so become unprofitable Members of the Commonwealth: Be it therefore Enacted by this present Parliament, and by the Authority thereof, That no person or persons whatsoever, from and after the Nine and twentieth of September, which shall be in the year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred fifty one, upon any Contract to be made after the said Nine and twentieth of September, shall take directly or indirectly for Loan of any Moneys, Wares, Merchandize, or other Commodities whatsoever, above the value of Six pounds for the forbearance of One hundred pounds for a year, and so after that Rate for a greater or lesser sum, or for a longer or shorter time; and that all Bonds, Contracts and Assurances whatsoever, made after the time aforesaid, for payment of any Principal or Money to be lent, or Covenanted to be performed, upon or for any Usury, Whereupon or Whereby there shall be reserved or taken above the Rate of Six pounds in the Hundred as aforesaid, shall be utterly void: And that all and every person and persons whatsoever, which shall after the time aforesaid, upon any Contract to be made after the said Nine and twentieth of September, One

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thousand six hundred fifty one, take, accept, and receive by way or means of any corrupt Bargain, Loan, Exchange, Chiefelance, Shift, or Interest of any wares, Merchandize, or other thing or things whatsoever, or by any deceitful way or means, or by any Coven, Engine, or deceitful Conveyance for the forbearing or giving day of payment for one whole year, of and for their Money or other thing, above the sum of Six pounds for the forbearing of One hundred pounds for a year, and so after that Rate for a lesser or greater sum, or for a longer or shorter time, shall forfeit and lose for every such Offence, the treble value of the Moneys, wares, Merchandize, and other things so Lent, Bargained, Sold, Exchanged or Shifted. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Scribener and Scribeners, Broker and Brokers, Solicitor and Solicitors, Driver and Drivers of Bargains for Contracts, who shall after the said Nine and twentieth of September, One thousand six hundred fifty one, take or receive directly or indirectly any sum or sums of Money, or other reward or thing for Brokage, Soliciting, Driving or Procuring the Loan, or forbearing of any sum or sums of Money, over and above the Rate or value of Five shillings for the Loan, or forbearing of One hundred pounds for a year, and so ratably; or above Twelve pence for making or renewing of the Bond or Bill for the Loan, or forbearing thereof, or for any Counterbound or Bill concerning the same, shall forfeit for every such Offence Twenty pounds, and have Imprisonment for half a year, the one moiety of all which Forfeitures to be for the use of this Com-

Commonwealth, and the other moiety to him or them that will sue for the same, in the same County where the several Offences are committed, and not elsewhere, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information, in which no Essoyn, Wager of Law, or Protection to be allowed. And be it further Enacted, That the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal of England, and Master of the Rolls for the time being, be authorized and enabled, in their several Courts and places respectively, to moderate Interest incurred during the late Troubles, according to the Circumstances of the Case, and as Equity and good Conscience may require, accounting the time of the said late Troubles from the first day of September, One thousand six hundred forty two, until the first of February, One thousand six hundred forty eight.

Passed the Eighth of *August*, 1651.

An Act providing for Maimed Soldiers and Widows
of *Scotland* and *Ireland*.

The Parliament taking into their consideration the Necessities of the Sick, wounded and Maimed Soldiers of the Armies in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and of the Widows and Orphans of such as have lost their Lives in that Service since the last of June, One thousand six hundred forty nine, Do Enact and Ordain, and be it Enacted and Ordained by Authority of this present Parliament, That the Treasurers appointed for the time being for Maimed Soldiers and Widows, be hereby Authorized and Impowred to pay unto the aforesmentioned Sick, wounded or Maimed

Wounded Soldiers, Widows and Orphants, who have been already Ordered to be paid by the Committee of Parliament for the Army; And others that are already, or shall be taken into allowance of pay, and are in present Necessity, for the space of Six Moneths, after the First day of February, One thousand six hundred fifty one: And from and after the expiration of the said six Moneths, shall continue such payment to such of the said Wounded Soldiers, Widows and Orphants, as shall at or before the end of the said Six Moneths procure such Certificates in such manner, from their several Commanders, under Whom the said Wounded and Wounded Soldiers, or the deceased Husband of the said Widows, or Father of the said Orphants did serve, as is hereafter provided and directed, and to no others; but shall from henceforth discharge all and every such person and persons, as shall not by that time exhibit to the said Treasures such Certificate as aforesaid, from receiving any further Pension or Allowance, until he or they shall procure and deliver unto the Treasurers such Certificate. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Certificate so to be procured as aforesaid, under the Hand and Seal of the General, Major General, Lieutenant General, or Commissary General of the Army, in which the said Wounded, Sick or Wounded Soldier, or the deceased Husband or Father of the said Widow or Orphant did serve, in manner and form following; viz.

I the Husband of _____ do hereby certify, that
 in my Regiment, or in the Regiment, Company or Troop _____ was a Soldier

Troop of _____ and was slain, or
 died in the Service of the Parliament about _____ last;
 or that _____ was a Soldier in my Regiment,
 or in the Regiment, Company or Troop of _____
 and fell sick, or was wounded or maimed in the
 Service of the Parliament, about _____ past;
 and deserves to be relieved according to such Orders and
 Directions as the Parliament hath or shall give.

And it is also hereby Enacted and Declared,
 That a Duplicate of the said Certificates be at
 the end of every Three Moneths returned to
 the Muster-master of the Armies, or his Depu-
 ty residing at London, by the aforesaid Officers
 of the Armies under their Hand and Seal;
 and that the said Muster-master or his De-
 puty keep a Register of the said Duplicates,
 to the end the same may be examined by the
 Treasurers for Maimed Soldiers and Wi-
 dows; which Examination the said Treasu-
 rers are hereby required to make once every
 Three Moneths. Provided always, That
 the said Wounded or sick Soldiers, on whose
 behalf such Certificates shall be made, be con-
 tinued by the said Treasurers, upon pain, no
 longer then they shall be cured, or recovered of
 their Wounds or sicknesses, except they be
 made thereby Unserviceable or unfit for other
 Employment, in the Judgement of the Phy-
 sicians and Chyrurgions under whose Cure
 they have been, and did formerly Inhabit
 within the Lines of Communication of the
 City of London: And for such other Soldiers
 who Inhabited and took up Arms in other
 parts and places of this Commonwealth, and
 have or shall be cured of their Wounds and sick-
 nesses, and yet remain disabled for other
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Service or Imployment; and for such widows having Certificates as aforesaid, whose husbands did or shall likewise take up Arms in other parts and places of the Commonwealth as abovesaid, It is hereby Enacted, That they shall be provided for in the former respective places of their Habitations, according to former Ordinances of Parliament in that behalf. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That all and every the Justices of the Peace, in their several places and Counties within England and Wales, be enjoined and required at their Quarter-Sessions, to put the Laws in Execution for maintenance of sick and maimed Soldiers; and thereby from time to time to provide a Stock for that purpose: And that they or one of them, do take order for the relief of all such Maimed Soldiers belonging to the Armies of this Commonwealth, in England, Scotland or Ireland; and the Widows and Orphans of such Soldiers as have been slain there, as soon as they shall deliver unto them such Certificate as aforesaid, or be sent unto them by the said Treasurers for maimed Soldiers, by a Pass under their hands, and the Publique Seal of their Office appointed for that purpose: And that the said Justices do forthwith make provision for such Soldiers and Widows, not exceeding Four shillings by the week to any such maimed or sick Soldier or Widow; or else shall provide that such of the said Widows and Soldiers that are able to work, shall be set on work, whereby they may gain by their said labor at least Four shillings Weekly, or give such additional Allowance unto each of them as shall make up Four shillings a week; And likewise take care for the setting the

the Children of such Widows to be Apprentices, and bred in some way to get their Livelihood. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That the Judges of Assize shall diligently enquire, give in Charge, and cause Presentment to be made of the Defaults of the Justices of the Peace herein, and cause this Act to be duly put in Execution, and take an account thereof; and cause Certificates thereof to be made, and returned within a Month next after every their several Assizes holden by them, of all such Soldiers and Widows, or Orphans, as shall be so provided for by the said Justices, unto the Committee of Parliament for maimed Soldiers and Widows; together with the Defaults of the several Justices of the Peace within their several Counties, That thereby the Parliament may be informed of the same, and take such further order therein as need shall require. And be it further Enacted and Ordained, That one sixth part of an Additional Excise, by vertue of an Ordinance of Parliament, Entituled, An Ordinance of Parliament of Additional Excise and New Impost, bearing date the Eighth day of July, One thousand six hundred forty four, and not yet disposed of, shall be continued to be paid by the Commissioners of Excise for the time being, to the aforesaid Treasurers for the maimed Soldiers and Widows, for and towards the uses mentioned in this Act. And it is hereby further Enacted and Ordained, That the said Treasurers for maimed Soldiers and Widows, shall be and are hereby Impowred and Authorized to allow and pay to every sick and wounded Soldier certified as aforesaid, during the time of their sickness, or so long as they shall

shall lie under Cure of their Wounds, the sum of Four Shillings eight pence by the Week unto every Maimed Soldier certified as aforesaid, who by reason of his Wounds and Maims received in the Service of Scotland and Ireland, is disabled from any further Service in the War and Imployment in his former Profession; and to every Widow certified as aforesaid, so much Weekly as in their Judgements they shall deem reasonable, according to their charge of Children or otherwise, not exceeding in allowance to any one of them above Four Shillings by the Week: And the Committee of Parliament for maimed Soldiers and Widows, or any three or more of them, are hereby Authorized from time to time to give order to the said Treasurers for the sick and maimed Soldiers, for providing all necessary Accommodations for the aforesaid Soldiers, Widows and Orphans; And to give such further Directions and Instructions for the better managing of this business, as they from time to time shall finde necessary and fit, and to give such Allowances to the Officers and Agents necessarily imployed in this Service for their Imployments, as to the said Committee of Parliament shall from time to time seem meet. Provided, That this Act shall continue and be in force until the First day of February, One thousand six hundred fifty and two, and no longer.

Passed the Thirtieth of September, 1651.

An Act for increafe of Shipping, and Encouragement of the Navigation of this Nation.

FOr the Increase of the Shipping and the Encouragement of the Navigation of this Nation, Which under the good Providence and protection of God, is so great a means of the Welfare and Safety of this Commonwealth; Be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and the Authority thereof, That from and after the first day of December, One thousand six hundred fifty one, and from thenceforwards, No Goods or Commodities whatsoever, of the Growth, Production or Manufacture of Asia, Africa or America, or of any part thereof; or of any Islands belonging to them or any of them, or which are described or laid down in the usual Maps or Cards of those places, as well of the English Plantations as others, shall be Imported or brought into this Commonwealth of England, or into Ireland, or any other Lands, Islands, Plantations or Territories to this Commonwealth belonging, or in their Possession, in any other Ship or Ships, Vessel or Vessels whatsoever, but only in such as do truly and without fraud belong only to the People of this Commonwealth, or the Plantations thereof, as the Proprietors or right Owners thereof: And Whereof the Master and Mariners are also for the most part of them, of the People of this Commonwealth, under the penalty of the forfeiture and loss of all the Goods that shall be Imported contrary to this Act; as also of the Ship (with all her Tackle, Guns and Apparel) in which the said Goods or Commodities shall be so brought in and Imported, The one moiety to the use of the Commonwealth, and the other

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moiety to the use and behoof of any person or
 persons who shall seize the said Goods or Com-
 modities, and shall prosecute the same in any
 Court of Record within this Commonwealth.
 And it is further Enacted by the Authority a-
 foresaid, That no Goods or Commodities of
 the Growth, Production or Manufacture of
 Europe, or of any part thereof, shall after the
 First day of December, One thousand six hun-
 dred fifty and one, be Imported or brought into
 this Commonwealth of England, or into Ireland,
 or any other Lands, Islands, Plantations or
 Territories to this Commonwealth belonging,
 or in their possession, in any Ship or Ships,
 Vessel or Vessels whatsoever, but in such as do
 truly and without fraud belong onely to the
 people of this Commonwealth, as the true
 Owners and Proprietors thereof, and in no o-
 ther, except onely such Foreign Ships and
 Vessels as do truly and properly belong to the
 people of that Countrey or place, of which the
 said Goods are the Growth, Production or Ma-
 nufacture; or to such Ports where the said
 Goods can onely be, or most usually are first
 Shipped for Transportation; And that under
 the same penalty of forfeiture and loss expressed
 in the former Branch of this Act, the said For-
 feitures to be recovered and imployed as is
 therein expressed. And it is further Enacted
 by the Authority aforesaid, That no Goods or
 Commodities that are of Foreign Growth,
 Production or Manufacture, and which are to
 be brought into this Commonwealth, in ship-
 ping belonging to the people thereof, shall be by
 them Shipped or brought from any other place
 or places, Countrey or Countreys, but onely
 from those of their said Growth, Production
 or

or Manufacture; or from those Ports Where the said Goods and Commodities can onely, or are, or usually have been first shipped for Transportation; And from none other places or Countreys, under the same penalty of forfeiture and loss expressed in the first Branch of this Act, the said Forfeitures to be recovered and imployed as is therein expressed. And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no sort of Cod-fish, Ling, Herring, Pilchard, or any other kinde of salted Fish, usually fished for and caught by the people of this Nation; nor any Oyl made, or that shall be made of any kinde of Fish whatsoever; nor any Whale-fins, or Whale-bones, shall from henceforth be Imported into this Commonwealth, or into Ireland, or any other Lands, Islands, Plantations or Territories thereto belonging, or in their possession, but onely such as shall be caught in Vessels that do or shall truly and properly belong to the people of this Nation, as Proprietors and Right Owners thereof: And the said Fish to be cured, and the Oyl aforesaid made by the people of this said Commonwealth, under the penalty and loss expressed in the said first Branch of this present Act; the said Forfeit to be recovered and imployed as is there expressed. And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no sort of Cod, Ling, Herring, Pilchard, or any other kinde of Salted Fish whatsoever, which shall be caught and cured by the people of this Commonwealth, shall be from and after the First day of February, One thousand six hundred fifty three, Exported from any place or places belonging to this Commonwealth, in any other Ship or Ships, Vessel or Vessels, save onely in such as do truly and properly

properly appertain to the people of this Commonwealth, as Right Owners; and Whereof the Master and Mariners are for the most part of them English, under the penalty and loss expressed in the said first Branch of this present Act; the said Forfeit to be recovered and employed as is there expressed. Provided always, That this Act, nor any thing therein contained, extend not, or be meant to restrain the Importation of any of the Commodities of the Streights or Levant Seas, loaden in the Shipping of this Nation as aforesaid, at the usual Ports or places for lading of them heretofore within the said Streights or Levant Seas, though the said Commodities be not of the very Growth of the said places. Provided also, That this Act nor any thing therein contained, extend not, nor be meant to restrain the Importing of any East-India Commodities loaden in the Shipping of this Nation, at the usual Port or places for lading of them heretofore in any part of those Seas, to the Southward and Eastward of Cabo Bona Esperanza, although the said Ports be not the very places of their Growth. Provided also, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any of the people of this Commonwealth, in Vessels or Ships to them belonging, and Whereof the Master and Mariners are of this Nation as aforesaid, To load and bring in from any of the Ports of Spain and Portugal, all sorts of Goods or Commodities that have come from, or any way belonged unto the Plantations or Dominions of either of them respectively. Be it also further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from henceforth, it shall not be lawful to any person or persons whatsoever, to load or cause to be loaden

loaden and carryed in any Bottom or Bot-
toms, Ship or Ships, Vessel or Vessels what-
soever, Whereof any Stranger or Strangers
born (unless such as be Denizens or Naturali-
zed) be Owners, part Owners or Master,
Any Fish, Victual, Wares, or things of what
kinde or nature soever the same shall be, from
one Port or Creek of this Commonwealth to
another Port or Creek of the same, under pe-
nalty to every one that shall offend contrary to
the true meaning of this Branch of this pre-
sent Act, to forfeit all the Goods that shall be
so laden or carried, as also the Ship upon which
they shall be so laden or carried, the same For-
feit to be recovered and imployed as directed in
the first Branch of this present Act. Lastly,
That this Act nor any thing therein contain-
ed, extend not to Bullion, nor yet to any Goods
taken, or that shall be taken by way of Repris-
al by any Ship or Ships, having Commission
from this Commonwealth. Provided, That
this Act, or any thing therein contained, shall
not extend, nor be construed to extend to any
Silk or Silk Wares which shall be brought by
Land from any parts of ITALY, and there
bought with the proceed of English Commo-
dities, sold either for Money or in Barter;
but that it shall and may be lawful for any
of the People of this Commonwealth to ship
the same in English Vessels from Ostend, New-
port, Rotterdam, Middleburgh, Amsterdam, or any
Ports thereabouts; The Owners and Pro-
prietors first making Oath by themselves, or
other credible witnesses, before the Commis-
sioners of the Customs for the time being or
their Deputies, or one of the Barons of the
Exchequer, That the Goods aforesaid were so
bought

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bought for his or their own proper Accompt
in Italy.

Passed the Ninth of *October*, 1651.

Votes of Parliament, touching Respites of Homage,
and mean Rates.

Resolved by the Parliament,

That all sums of money payable for Re-
spites of Homage, Fines for Alienation
Without License, and all Arrears there-
of, and all Issues for the same, and all Proces
out of the Court of Exchequer against any per-
son or persons for or in respect thereof, and all
Proceedings upon such Proces be discharged,
and no further Proces or Proceedings be had
thereupon.

Resolved,

That all Sums of Money due for mean
Rates, and Arrears thereof, and all Proces
and Proceedings thereupon be discharged, and
that no further seizure shall henceforth be made
for such mean Rates or Arrears thereof: And
all Judges, Officers and Ministers of Ju-
stice are to take notice hereof.

Passed the fifteenth of *November*, 1650.

A Branch of an Act (Entituled, *An Act for raising of Ninety thou-
sand pounds a Moneth for Six Moneths, to commence the 25th of
December, 1651. for maintenance of the Forces in England, Ire-
land and Scotland, raised by the Authority of Parliament for the
Service of this Commonwealth*) touching Billeting of Soldiers.

And Whereas the Parliament have by se-
veral Acts and Orders, Declared and
Provided against taking Free-quarter,
or quartering of any Officers or Soldiers in
any

any Houses, except Inns, Taverns, Victu-
 alling houses or Ale-houses, and appointed se-
 veral penalties to be inflicted on the Trans-
 gressors of such Acts and Orders as have been
 in that behalf published; Notwithstanding
 which Declarations and Orders, several of the
 people of this Commonwealth, upon pretence
 of removal or change of Quarters; and the
 like ordinary occasions, have suffered very great
 prejudice by the Soldiers taking Free-quarter
 and quartering in their houses, contrary to the
 intention of the Parliament; Who in the Pro-
 vision of pay for the Forces, and addition of a
 competent Allowance of pay to the Soldierie in
 lieu of Billet, which is still continued to them,
 Did principally intend the prevention of those
 unnecessary Burthens and Vexations which
 generally attend the taking of Free-quarter
 and quartering of Soldiers in private houses:
 Be it therefore Enacted, and it is hereby En-
 acted and Ordained, That one or more of the
 Officers in Commission of each Troop, Com-
 pany or party of Soldiers in England, that
 shall be present with, and have the command of
 such Troop, Company or party, shall by Ticket
 under his or their Hand, expressing therein the
 Christian Name and Surname of the Soldier
 or Soldiers to whom the same shall be given,
 assign and appoint in what place and house
 each Soldier under his or their Command
 shall be quartered: And that no Soldier shall
 without such Ticket as aforesaid, under pre-
 tence of taking Quarter or Billet, Enter into
 the house of any person or persons whatsoever,
 contrary to, or without the consent of the per-
 sons inhabiting therein. And it is also Enacted
 and Ordained, That no Officer in Commis-
 sion,

tion, Constable, Headborough, or other person whatsoever, shall henceforth Quarter, or Appoint or Assign the quartering of any Officer or Soldier in England in any House or Houses, Except in Inns, Taverns, Victualling-houses or Ale-houses. And if any Officer or Officers shall, contrary to the intent of this present Act, quarter, or appoint the quartering of any Officer or Soldier in any House, Except Inns, Taverns, Victualling-houses or Ale-houses as aforesaid, upon Complaint and Proof upon Oath thereof made before the two next Justices of the Peace, or two next Commissioners of the Assessments, who are hereby authorized and required to administer such Oath, and transmitting of the said Complaint and Proofs by the said Two Justices of the Peace, or two Commissioners of the Assessments, under their Hands and Seals to the Committee for the Army within Forty days after such complaint made as aforesaid; The Officer or Officers so offending, shall for the first Offence forfeit Fourteen days pay to the use of the Commonwealth (which the Committee for the Army are hereby authorized and required to defalk out of his or their next pay) And for the second Offence shall be cashiered the Army: And also if any Officer or Soldier shall either by vertue or colour of any Ticket or Assignment from his or their superiour Officer, or by appointment of any other person, or upon any other pretence whatsoever, take Free-quarter, or enter into the house of any person or persons, Except Inns, Taverns, Victualling houses or Ale-houses as aforesaid, there to Quarter or Billet contrary to or without the good-liking and consent of the person

person or persons inhabiting in such house or houses, upon complaint and proof, upon Oath thereof made in such maner, and before such persons, and transmitting of the said Complaint and proofs of the said Committee of the Army, in such form and within such time as is before expressed and declared; The Officer or Soldier that shall so offend by taking Free-quarter, or by quartering or Billetting in any private house, Shall for the first offence forfeit Fourteen days pay to the use of the Commonwealth; and the Committee of the Army are hereby required to defalk the same out of their next pay accordingly, and for the second Offence be cashiered the Army. And the Committee of the Army are hereby likewise Authorized to allow and satisfie to such person or persons in whose house (not being Inn, Tavern, Victualling house or Ale-house) any Officer or Soldier shall contrary to their consents, and without their good liking, Billet and Quarter, or take Free-quarter, such reasonable allowance as they shall think fit, not exceeding three days pay, according to the quality and daily allowance of pay made to the persons so quartering in his or their private houses, or taking Free-quarter as aforesaid, for every night that they shall so quarter therein or take Free-quarter from them. And the said Committee shall also deduct and abate what shall be by them so allowed for satisfaction as aforesaid, out of the pay that shall be due to such Officer or Soldier. And if any Troop or Company (appertaining to any Regiment) or any part of any Troop or Company shall remove their Quarters, or occasionally march from place to place without a Commission-Officer present

With them, the Colonel to whose Regiment such Troop, Company or party doth belong, shall forfeit Fourteen days pay for the same, which the Committee of the Army is hereby authorized and required to deduct accordingly; which forfeiture shall be born by the Field Officers of the said Regiment proportionably: And in case it shall appear to the Committee of the Army or a Council of War, that the Field Officers of such Regiment have therein done their duty, That then the said Committee or Council of War shall have power to order the reimbursing of the said Field Officers out of the pay of such Troop, Company or party, as shall be found Offenders against this Act: And in case any Troop, Company or party not belonging to any Regiment, shall so remove or march as aforesaid, That then the Captain to which such Troop, Company or party doth belong, shall forfeit Fourteen days pay to be deducted as aforesaid; And in case such Captain be found innocent as aforesaid, he shall be reimbursed out of the Offenders pay as aforesaid: And that the Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for the Assessments shall have, and are hereby required to exercise the like power in all and every the cases aforesaid, to examine and certify as is before appointed in this Act in case of Quartering.

Passed the Nineteenth of *December*, 1651.



A Table of the several Ordinances of Parliament printed in this Book.

August 28. 1643.

AN Ordinance for the utter Demolishing, Removing and taking away of all Monuments of Superstition or Idolatry.

May 9. 1644.

An Ordinance for the further Demolishing of Monuments of Idolatry and Superstition.

November 8. 1644.

An Ordinance for the true payment of Tythes, and other such Duties, according to the Laws and Customs of the Realm.

May 28. 1647.

An Ordinance for Relief of Maimed Soldiers and Mariners, and the Widows and Orphants of such as have died in the Service of the Parliament during these late Wars.

August 9. 1647.

An Additional Ordinance for the True Payment of Tythes and other Duties.

August 10. 1647.

An Ordinance for the Relief and Maintenance of maimed Soldiers and Mariners, and the Widows and

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and Orphants of such as have dyed in the Service of the Parliament during these late Wars.

January 19. 1647.

An Ordinance to prohibit the Transporting of Wool, and Fullers-earth.

An Order commanding that all Wool of the growth of *Ireland* shall not be Transported into any parts out of that Kingdom, except into *England* or *Wales*.

February 9. 1647.

An Ordinance for repairing of Churches, and for payment of Church Duties.

February 11. 1647.

An Ordinance for Suppresion of Stage-plays and Interludes.

April 4. 1648.

An Ordinance for the better payment of Tythes and Duties to the Ministers of the City of *London*.

April. 21 1648.

An Ordinance for the better payment of Tythes and Duties to the Ministers of the City of *London*.

An



AN
ORDINANCE
 OF THE
 LORDS and COMMONS
 Assembled in
PARLIAMENT
 FOR

The utter Demolishing, Removing and Taking away
 of all MONUMENTS of Superstition or Idolatry.



The Lords and Commons in Parliament taking into their serious Consideration, how well pleasing it is to God, and conductible to the blessed Reformation in his worship, so much desired by both Houses of Parliament, That all Monuments of Superstition or Idolatry should be Removed and Demolished, Do Ordain, That in all and every the Churches and Chappels, as well Cathedral and Collegiate, as other Churches and Chappels, and other usual places of publique Prayer authorized by Law within this Realm of England and Dominion of Wales, All Altars and Tables of Stone shall before the First day of November, in the year of our Lord God, One thousand six hundred forty three, be utterly Taken away and Demolished; And
 By also

also all Communion Tables removed from the East end of every such Church, Chappel or place of publique Prayer, and Chancel of the same, and shall be placed in some other fit and convenient place or places of the Body of the said Church, Chappel or other such place of publique Prayer, or of the Body of the Chancel of every such Church, Chappel or other such place of publique Prayer; And that all Rails whatsoever which have been erected near to, before or about any Altar or Communion Table in any of the said Churches or Chappels, or other such place of publique prayer as aforesaid, shall before the said day be likewise taken away: And the Chancel-ground of every such Church or Chappel, or other place of publique prayer, which hath been within Twenty years last past raised for any Altar or Communion Table to stand upon, shall before the said day be laid down and levelled, as the same was before the said Twenty years last past; And that all Tapers, Candlesticks and Basons, shall before the said day be removed and taken away from the Communion Table in every such Church, Chappel, or other place of publique prayer; and neither the same, nor any such like shall be used about the same at any time after the said day; And that all Crucifixes, Crosses, and all Images and Pictures of any one or more Persons of the Trinity, or of the Virgin Mary, and all other Images and Pictures of Saints, or superstitious Inscriptions in or upon all and every the said Churches or Chappels, or other places of publique prayer, Church-yards, or other places to any the said Churches and Chappels, or other place of publique Prayer belonging, or in any other open place, shall before the

the said First day of November be taken away and defaced, and none of the like hereafter permitted in any such Church or Chappel, or other places as aforesaid.

And be it further Ordained, That all and every such Removal of the said Altars, Tables of Stone, Communion Tables, Tapers, Candlesticks and Balcons, Crucifixes and Crosses, Images and Pictures as aforesaid, taking away of the said Rails, levelling of the said Grounds, shall be done and performed, and the Walls, Windows, Grounds, and other places which shall be broken, impaired or altered by any the means aforesaid, shall be made up and repaired in good and sufficient maner in all and every of the said Parish Churches or Chappels, or usual places of publique Prayer belonging to any Parish, by the Churchwarden or Churchwardens of every such Parish for the time being respectively; and in any Cathedral or Collegiate church or chappel by the Dean or Sub-Dean, or other chief Officer of every such church or chappel for the time being: And in the Universities, by the several Heads and Governors of every Colledge or Hall respectively; and in the several Inns of Court, by the Benchers and Readers of every of the same respectively, at the cost and charges of all and every such person or persons, Body politique or corporate, or Parishioners of every Parish respectively, to whom the charge of the Repair of any such Church, Chappel, Chancel or place of publique prayer, or other part of such church or chappel, or place of publique prayer doth or shall belong: And in case default be made in any of the premises by any of the person or persons thereunto appointed by this Ordinance, from
and

and after the said First day of November, Which shall be in the year of our Lord God, One thousand six hundred forty three, That then every such person or persons so making default, shall for every such neglect or default, by the space of Twenty days, forfeit and lose Forty shillings to the use of the poor of the said Parish wherein such default shall be made; or if it be out of any Parish, then to the use of the poor of such Parish whose Church is or shall be nearest to the Church or Chappel, or other place of publique Prayer where such default shall be made; and if default shall be made after the First day of December, Which shall be in the said year One thousand six hundred forty three, Then any one Justice of the Peace of the County, City or Town where such default shall be made, upon Information thereof to him to be given, shall cause or procure the Premises to be performed according to the Tenor of this Ordinance, at the cost and charges of such person or persons, Bodies politique or corporate, or Inhabitants in every Parish, who are appointed by this Ordinance to bear the same.

Provided, That this Ordinance or any thing therein contained, shall not extend to any Image, Picture, or Coat of Arms in Glass, Stone or otherwise, in any Church, Chappel, Church-yard or place of publique Prayer as aforesaid, set up or graven onely for a Monument of any King, Prince or Nobleman, or other dead person which hath not been commonly reputed or taken for a Saint: but that all such Images, Pictures and coats of Arms may stand and continue in like maner and form, as if this Ordinance had never been made.

Passed the Twenty eighth of *August*, 1643.

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An Ordinance for the further demolishing of Monuments of
Idolatry and Superstition.

THe Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, the better to accomplish the blessed Reformation so happily begun, and to remove all Offences and things illegal in the worship of God, Do Ordain, That all Representations of any of the persons of the Trinity, or of any Angel or Saint, in or about any Cathedral, Collegiate or Parish Church or Chappel, or in any open place within this Kingdom, shall be taken away, defaced and utterly demolished, and that no such shall hereafter be set up: And that the Chancel-ground of every such Church or Chappel raised for any Altar or Communion-Table to stand upon, shall be laid down and levelled; And that no Copes, Surplises, superstitious Vestments, Roods, or Roodlofts, or Holy Water Fonts, shall be, or be any more used in any church or chappel within this Realm; And that no cros, crucifix, picture, or Representation of any of the persons of the Trinity, or of any Angel or Saint, shall be, or continue upon any place or other thing used or to be used in or about the worship of God: And that all Organs, and the Frames or Cases wherein they stand in all churches and chappels aforesaid, shall be taken away and utterly defaced, and none other hereafter set up in their places: And that all Copes, Surplises, superstitious Vestments, Roods and Fonts aforesaid, be likewise utterly defaced, whereunto all persons within this Kingdom whom it may concern, are hereby required at their peril to yield due obedience.

Provided, That this Ordinance or any thing
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therein contained, shall not extend to any Image, Picture or Coat of Arms, in Glas, Stone or otherwise, in any Church, Chappel, Church yard or place of publique Prayer as aforesaid, set up or graven onely for a Monument of any King, Prince or Nobleman, or other dead person which hath not been commonly reputed or taken for a Saint: But that all such Images, Pictures and coats of Arms, may stand and continue in like maner and form as if this Ordinance had never been made: And the severall Churchwardens or Overseers of the pooz of the said severall churches and chappels respectibely, and the next adjoyning Justice of the Peace or Deputy Lieutenant, are hereby required to see the due performance hereof. And that the repairing of the walls, windows, grounds and other places which shall be broken or impaired by any the means aforesaid, shall be done and performed by such person and persons, as are for the same end and purpose nominated and appointed by a former Ordinance of Parliament of the Eight and twentieth of August, One thousand six hundred forty three, for the utter demolishing of Monuments of Superstition or Idolatry.

Passed the Ninth of May, 1644.

An Ordinance for the true payment of Tythes, and other such Duties, according to the Laws and Customs of the Realm.

Whereas divers persons within the Realm of England and Dominion of Wales, taking advantage of the present Distractions, and aiming at their own profit, have refused and still do refuse to set out, yeld and pay Tythes, Offerings, Oblations, Obven-

Obventions, and other such duties, according to the Law of the said Realm; to which they are the more encouraged, both because there is not now any such compulsory means for recovery of them by any Ecclesiastical proceedings, as heretofore hath been; and also for that by reason of the present Troubles there cannot be had speedy remedy for them in the Temporal Courts, although they remain still due, and of right payable, as in former times. Be it therefore Declared and Ordained by the Lords and Commons in Parliament Assembled, That every person and persons whatsoever within the said Realm and Dominion, shall fully, truly and effectually set out, yield and pay respectively, all and singular Tythes, Offerings, Oblations, Obventions, Rates for Tythes, and all other Duties commonly known by the name of Tythes, and all Arrears of them respectively, to all and every the respective Owners, Proprietors, Impropriators and Possessors, as well Lay as Ecclesiastical respectively, their Executors and Administrators of Parsonages, Vicarages or Rectories, either Improprate, or Presentative, or Donative, and of Vicarages, and of portions of Tythes respectively within the said Realm and Dominion, according to the Law, Custom, Prescription, Composition or Contract respectively, by which they or any of them ought to have been set out, yielded and paid at the beginning of this present Parliament or two years before; and in all and every case where any person or persons hath at any time since the beginning of this present Parliament or two years before, subtracted, withdrawn or failed in due payment of, or hereafter at any time

time shall subtract, withdraw or fail in due payment of any such Tythes, Offerings, Oblations, Obventions, Rates for Tythes, or any Duty known by the Name of Tythes, or Arrears of them or any of them as aforesaid, the person or persons to whom the same is, hath been, or shall be respectively due, his Executors or Administrators, shall and may make his and their complaints thereof to any two Justices of Peace within the same County, City, Town, Place, Riding or Division, not being Patron or Patrons of the Church where such Subtraction, withdrawing, or failure of payment hath been or shall be; nor being interested any way in the things in question: Which Justices of Peace are Authorized hereby, and shall have full power to summon by reasonable Warning beforehand, all and every such such person or persons against whom any such complaints shall be made to them, and after his or their appearance before them, or upon default made after the second Summons, the said Summons being made as aforesaid, and proved before the said Justices by Oath, which said Justices hereby shall have power to minister the same, to hear and determine the said Complaint, by sending for, and examining Witnesses upon Oath, which said Oath the said Justices are hereby also Authorized to Administer, and admitting other Proofs brought on either side, and thereupon shall in Writing under their Hands and Seal adjudge the case, and give reasonable Costs and Damages to either party, as in their judgement they shall think fit.

And be it further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall refuse to pay any such Tythes or Sums of Money

Money as upon such complaint and proceeding shall be by any such Justices of Peace adjudged as aforesaid, and shall not within thirty days next after notice of such Judgement in Writing under the Hand and Seal of such Justices of Peace given to him or them, make full satisfaction thereof, according to the said Judgement, in every such Case the person and persons respectively to Whom any such Tythes or sums of Money shall be upon such Judgement due, shall and may by Warrant from the said Justices, or either of them distrain all and every, or any the goods and chattels of the party or parties so refusing, and of the same to make sale, and to retain to himself or themselves so much of the Moneys raised by Sale thereof as may satisfie the said Judgement, returning the overplus thereof to the party or parties so refusing. And in case no sufficient Distress can be found, that then the said Justices of Peace, or any other Justices of Peace of the same County as aforesaid, shall and may commit all and every such person and persons so refusing, to the next common Goal of the said county, there to remain in safe custody without Bail or Mainprize, until he or they respectively shall make full satisfaction according to the said Judgement.

Provided always, and it is further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall think him or themselves unjustly dealt with by or in any such Judgement as aforesaid, then he or they respectively shall and may thereof complain to the High Court of Chancery, where the Cause between the Parties shall be again heard and determined; which Court shall hereby have full power & authority

time shall subtract, withdraw or fail in due payment of any such Tythes, Offerings, Oblations, Obventions, Rates for Tythes, or any Duty known by the Name of Tythes, or Arrears of them or any of them as aforesaid, the person or persons to whom the same is, hath been, or shall be respectively due, his Executors or Administrators, shall and may make his and their complaints thereof to any two Justices of Peace within the same County, City, Town, Place, Riding or Division, not being Patron or Patrons of the Church where such Substraction, withdrawing, or failure of payment hath been or shall be; nor being interested any way in the things in question: Which Justices of Peace are Authorized hereby, and shall have full power to summon by reasonable Warning beforehand, all and every such such person or persons against whom any such complaints shall be made to them, and after his or their appearance before them, or upon default made after the second Summons, the said Summons being made as aforesaid, and proved before the said Justices by Oath, which said Justices hereby shall have power to minister the same, to hear and determine the said Complaint, by sending for, and examining Witnesses upon Oath, which said Oath the said Justices are hereby also Authorized to Administer, and admitting other Proofs brought on either side, and thereupon shall in Writing under their Hands and Seal adjudge the case, and give reasonable Costs and Damages to either party, as in their judgement they shall think fit.

And be it further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall refuse to pay any such Tythes or Sums of Money

Money as upon such complaint and proceeding shall be by any such Justices of Peace adjudged as aforesaid, and shall not within thirty days next after notice of such Judgement in Writing under the hand and Seal of such Justices of Peace given to him or them, make full satisfaction thereof, according to the said Judgement, in every such Case the person and persons respectively to whom any such Tythes or sums of Money shall be upon such Judgement due, shall and may by Warrant from the said Justices, or either of them distrain all and every, or any the goods and chattels of the party or parties so refusing, and of the same to make sale, and to retain to himself or themselves so much of the Moneys raised by Sale thereof as may satisfie the said Judgement, returning the overplus thereof to the party or parties so refusing. And in case no sufficient Distress can be found, that then the said Justices of Peace, or any other Justices of Peace of the same County as aforesaid, shall and may commit all and every such person and persons so refusing, to the next common Goal of the said county, there to remain in safe custody without Bail or Mainprize, until he or they respectively shall make full satisfaction according to the said Judgement.

Provided always, and it is further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall think him or themselves unjustly dealt with by or in any such Judgement as aforesaid, then he or they respectively shall and may thereof complain to the High Court of Chancery, where the Cause between the Parties shall be again heard and determined; which Court shall hereby have full power & authority

to summon the parties, and to hear and determine the same, and to suspend Execution as the same Court shall see cause; and to give final Judgement therein With reasonable costs to the party or parties grieved by any such complaint brought before them.

Provided always, That this Ordinance or any thing therein contained, shall not extend to any Tythes, Offerings, Yearly payments, or other Ecclesiastical Duties, due or to be due for any Houses, Buildings, or other Hereditaments Within the City of London, or the Liberties thereof, which be otherwise provided for by Act of Parliament.

Passed the Eighth of *November*, 1644.

An Ordinance for Relief of Maimed Soldiers and Mariners, and the Widows and Orphants of such as have died in the Service of the Parliament during these late Wars.

FOr the Relief and Maintenance of such Soldiers as have been maimed, and disabled in the Service of the Parliament during these late Wars, that is to say, since the Wars began; and for the Relief of the Widows and Orphants of such as have been slain or dead in the said Service, Be it Ordained by the Lords and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, That from and after the Feast of Easter last past before the date hereof, every Parish Within this Realm of England and Dominion of Wales, shall be charged Weekly to the payment of such Sum of Money as formerly they have been rated at by vertue of a Statute of the Three and fortieth year of Queen Elizabeth; Cap. tertio, concerning the Relief of Soldiers and Mariners, for and to such end
and

and purpose; And likewise such further Sum of Money over and besides the same, as by the Justices of the Peace in their next Quarter-Sessions after the passing of this Ordinance, or the major part of them shall be adjudged meet to be Assessed upon every Parish or Chappelry that hath distinct parochial Officers; so as the said Additional Sum exceedeth not the sum of Two shillings and six pence, nor be under the sum of Three pence each Week, for each such Parish or Chappelry, the same to be Levied in maner and form by such persons, and under such penalties, as by the said Statute of Queen Elizabeth is declared; and to be paid to the Treasurers for the Maimed Soldiers appointed by the Justices of the Peace of the County or Liberty by vertue of this Ordinance, and the Statute of Queen Elizabeth aforesaid; Which said Treasurers shall be ordered in such maner, and under such penalties, as by the said Statute is further declared. And be it Ordained, That every Soldier or Mariner, maimed or disabled in body for work, in the Service of the Parliament during these late wars, shall forthwith repair to the place where he was last settled when he took up Arms, with a Certificate of his service and hurt received, under the hand of his Captain or other Commissionary Officer, and shall also repair unto the two next Justices of the Peace for the County where such his settling was; And the said two Justices upon Examination of the truth of such Certificate (which the said two Justices are hereby enabled to take upon Oath of the party, and of such witnesses as he shall produce) shall by Warrant unto the Treasurer assign him Relief until the next Quarter-Sessions

Sessions to be holden for that County or Liberty; at which time a yearly Pension shall be by the said Justices or major part of them granted in maner and form, and with power of Revocation or Alteration, as by the said Statute is further declared and directed; And in case that the Captain or Officer appointed to make such Certificate be dead, the said two Justices shall have power upon request of them made in behalf of the party maimed by persons of credit, to give such Relief as in case of examination aforesaid. And as touching Widows and Orphants of such as have died, or have been slain in the Service of the Parliament; It is hereby Ordained, That over and besides such Relief as they shall gain by their work and labor, and shall be allowed them by the Charity and Benevolence of the Parish, Town or Hamlet where they are settled (who are hereby required to have them in special regard) the Treasurers of the Maimed Soldiers for such County shall allow such further Relief from time to time, as shall be judged meet by the two next Justices of the Peace of such County; The said Relief shall be paid out of the surplussage of such Stock of Maintenance as shall remain in the hands of the said Treasurers after such Pensions granted, and payment of them made; and of which Surplussage and Allowance made unto such Widows and Orphants, the said Treasurers shall give Accompt from time to time, and the same distribute in such maner as by the Justices shall be directed, and according to the Statute aforesaid.

Be it further Ordained, That the Justices of the Peace in every County or Liberty, or
any

any two of them, shall forthwith call all such Treasurers, High-constables, Petty-constables or other persons (who have formerly been intrusted with the Receipt, Collecting or Disposing of any sum of Money charged upon any Parish by vertue of the Statute aforesaid, and whereof no Accompt hath been given; and likewise the Executors and Administrators of such persons) unto accompt concerning such Levies and Collections made, and such Money as they shall finde remaining in the custody of such persons, to order forthwith to be paid unto the Treasurer appointed by vertue of the said Statute, or to be appointed by vertue of this Ordinance, at the next Quarter-Sessions to be holden for the County or Liberty, under such penalties as by the said Statute is set forth; which said Treasurer to be appointed by vertue of this Ordinance shall continue by vertue hereof until the Easter-Sessions following.

Passed the Twenty eighth of May, 1647.

An Additional Ordinance for the True Payment of Tythes and other Duties.

Whereas some doubts have been raised, whether Ministers put into Livings and Sequestrations by Ordinance of both Houses of Parliament, or Committees thereunto Authorized by them, be comprized within the Ordinance of the Eighth of November, One thousand six hundred forty four, Entituled, An Ordinance of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament for the True payment of Tythes and other such Duties, according to the Laws and Custom of the Real, so as to recover their

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Tythes

Tythes and other Duties by vertue thereof, and in what maner Justices of Peace ought to proceed upon the same. The Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, for prevention of all such Doubts and Scruples, do Declare, That every Minister put, or which shall be put into any Parsonage, Rectory, Vicarage or Ecclesiastical Living, by Way of Sequestration or otherwise, by both or either the Houses of Parliament, or by any Committee, or other person or persons by Authority of any Ordinance or Order of Parliament, shall and may sue for the recovery of his Tythes, Rates for Tythes, Rents and other Duties by vertue of the said Ordinance, in as full and ample maner to all intents and purposes, as any other Minister or other person whatsoever. And that the Justices of Peace mentioned in the said Ordinance, shall upon complaint to them made by any such Minister as aforesaid, or other person within the said Ordinance, immediately without delay issue out their Warrants to the Constables, Petty-constables or other Officers, to summon such person or persons who already have, or hereafter shall refuse to set out or pay, or shall subtract their Tythes, Rates for Tythes, Rents or other Duties, to appear before them at their next monethly Meeting or sooner; and use all possible expedition in the hearing and determining of such complaints; And shall likewise have power to award treble Damages to the parties complaining, and shall award the same accordingly in all such Cases where the Statute allows, and gives the same to any Minister or other person whatsoever.

And in case the sum or sums of Money so adjudged and awarded, shall not be paid within the

the time in the said Ordinance mentioned, then the said Justices, shall upon complaint to them made, send forth their Warrants to the Constables, Petty-constables or such other fit persons as shall be by the parties named, to whom any such sum or sums upon such Judgement shall be due, to distrain all and every, or any the goods and chattels of any person or persons so refusing; and to sell and dispose of the said goods and chattels according to the said Ordinance, and to impose such Fines and Penalties, not exceeding the sum of Forty shillings, upon the Constables, Petty-constables, and other Officers who shall wilfully refuse or be negligent in executing their Warrants, as they in their discretion shall think meet.

And because many Appeals are brought into the Chancery upon the former Ordinance for Tythes, rather for vexation and delay, then otherwise; Be it therefore Ordained, That no Appeal shall be received or admitted thereupon, until the party appealing shall lay down in money, either with the said Justices of Peace, or in the Court of Chancery, the full value of the Tythes adjudged before the said Justices, by way of Security, to prosecute his Appeal with effect, and to render double costs and damages to the party injured or delayed by the Appeal, in case no relief be given upon the Appeal to the Prosecutor.

Provided, That this Ordinance shall continue and be in force from the Four and twentieth day of July, One thousand six hundred forty seven, until the First day of November, which shall be in the year One thousand six hundred forty eight.

Passed the Ninth of August, 1647.

An

An Ordinance for the Relief and Maintenance of maimed Soldiers and Mariners, and the Widows and Orphants of such as have died in the Service of the Parliament during these late Wars.

Whereas by a former Ordinance, bearing date the 28 day of May, now last passed, Entituled, An Ordinance for relief of maimed Soldiers, &c. It is Ordained, That such further sum of Money shall be assessed as by the Justices of Peace in the next Quarter-Sessions after the passing the said Ordinance, or the major part of them, shall be adjudged meet to be assessed upon every Parish or Chappelry that hath distinct Parochial Officers, so as the said additional sum exceedeth not the sum of Two shillings sixpence, nor be under the sum of Three pence each week, for each such Parish or Chappelry; forasmuch as the service aforesaid could not be performed as was desired, for want of time sufficient allowed by this Ordinance, in regard the Authority given to the Justices to execute the same, is onely at the next Quarter-Sessions after the passing the Ordinance: It is therefore Ordered and Ordained by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, That the Justices of Peace within the Kingdom of England and Dominion of Wales, shall be hereby authorized to proceed, and shall or may at any time hereafter, at any Sessions of the Peace which shall or may at any time hereafter be holden within their severall Divisions, proceed for the putting the former Ordinance in Execution to all intents and purposes, as they might have done by vertue of the said Ordinance aforesaid, at the next Quarter Sessions after the passing the same.

Passed the Tenth of August, 1647.

An

An Ordinance to prohibit the Transporting of Wool
and Fullers-Earth.

BE it Ordained by the Lords and Com-
mons, That it shall not be lawfull for any
person or persons to lade, ship, or carry in
any Ship, Barge, Boat or other Vessel, or
otherwise, any Wool of the Growth of the
Kingdoms of England or Ireland, or Dominion
of Wales; or any Woollen, Yarn, Woollen-flor,
wool-fel, Fullers-earth, Clay, Tobaccopipe-
clay or any other Earth or Clay which may be
used in the Art of Fulling, of intent to trans-
port or carry the same into any place or places
of the parts beyond the Seas, or into the
Realm of Scotland by Land or by Sea, or to
carry the same to any Ship or other Vessel
whatsoever to be transported, upon the pains
and forfeitures hereafter ensuing, that is to
say, Upon the pain of the forfeiture of the said
Wools, Woollen yarn, Woollen-flor, Wool-fel, &
Earth or Clay so laden, shipped, carryed or trans-
ported, and Three shillings for every pound of
such Wool, Yarn, Flor and Earth, or Clay;
And for every pound weight of the said Earth
or Clay, Three shillings to be forfeited by the
Owner or Owners thereof; and also the Own-
er of the said Ships or Vessels knowing of such
Offence, to forfeit all their Interest in the said
Ships or Vessels, with all their Apparel and
Furniture to them and every of them belong-
ing; And the Master and Partners knowing
of such Offence, to forfeit all their Goods and
Chattels, and to have Imprisonment by the
space of one whole year without Bail or Main-
prize. And further, That if any such Wool,
Woollen-yarn, Woollen-flor, wool-fel, or any

of the said earth or clay, be laid in any place whatsoever with intention to transport, or that the same should be transported beyond Sea, or with intention to transport or convey the same, or that the same should be transported or conveyed to any other Port or place by Sea in England or Wales, and shall not in such case where the same is to be transported or conveyed by Sea to other place in England or Wales as aforesaid, enter, or cause to be entered sufficient obligation with the Customer and Comptroller of the Port to such place belonging, or as is next unto the same, for the true delivery thereof at some other place of this Realm; That then the said Wools, Woolen-yarn, Woolen-flox, Wool-fels, and earth or clay, and Three shillings for every pound weight of the said earth or clay, shall be forfeited by the Owners thereof. And it is further Ordained, That if any Merchant, or any other person or persons shall transport, or cause to be transported any of the said earth or clay, wool, Woolen Yarn, or Woolen-flox, or Wool-fells, contrary to the intent of this Ordinance, That then he shall be disabled for requiring any debt or accompt of any Factor or others, for or concerning any Debt or Estate properly belonging to such Merchant and Offender to his own use: And if any Owner of the Land where such clay or earth is digged or gotten, shall be privy unto, or know of such Transportation by any person or persons, and shall not discover the same to some Justice or Justices of the Peace, within three moneths of such his knowledge, he shall for every such offence forfeit five hundred pounds of lawful money of England: And if such Justice of Peace to whom such discovery

covery shall be made, shall not certifie the same under his Hand and Seal to the Barons of the Exchequer, or any one of them, within three moneths following, he shall for every such Offence forfeit One hundred pounds of like lawful money.

And it is further Ordained, That all and every Person, Owner or Occupier of any grounds where such earth or clay as aforesaid shall be digged or taken, or Owner or Occupier of such earth or clay, that shall sell or dispose of the same, shall keep one or more Books, wherein he shall enter from time to time the quantities of all such clay or earth by him sold, the name or names of the person or persons to whom such sale shall be made, and the place of his habitation or abode, and shall once in six moneths give a note in Writing of all such Fullers-earth or clay sold or disposed of to the Justices of the Peace, or any one of them next or near adjoyning to the place where such earth or clay is, or shall be at the time of the sale or disposition thereof, on pain to forfeit for every hundred weight, the sum of twenty shillings of lawful money of England for every such neglect; and that a sufficient person, of the profession of a Clothier or Fuller of the county of Kent, shall by the Barons of the Exchequer be appointed to keep a Book of the Entries of the true Quantities of such earth and clay measured, and received from the Pits or Store-houses thereof, and to certifie such his Book half yearly into the Court of Exchequer upon oath, and to have such sum or sums of money as the said Committee of the Navy and Customs shall think fit, not exceeding six pence for every load, containing twenty two Bushels
of

of such earth and clay so received by the Receiver thereof; and that one half or moiety of all the forfeitures before mentioned shall be paid to the Commissioners and Collectors of the Customs for the time being, for the use of the Navy, or to such use as the said Houses of Parliament shall order or appoint, and the other moiety thereof to be to such person and persons as shall seize or sue for the same by Bill, Plaint or Information in the Court of Exchequer; and the said Goods so seized, to be by the Seisor from time to time Registered, with the Officer thereunto appointed in the Custom-house of London. And it is further Ordered by the said Lords and Commons, That the Barons of the said Court of Exchequer, and all other the Officers and Ministers of the said Court respectively for the time being, do and shall, and are hereby authorized and required to receive and proceed to Judgement upon such Bill, Plaint or Information, according to the course of that Court heretofore used for the recovery of forfeited Goods for non-payment of Tonnage and Poundage when the same were granted by Act of Parliament. And that the Barons of the said Court of Exchequer, his Majesties Attorney or Solicitor-general, or any three of them, whereof the said Attorney or Solicitor-general to be one, shall and may compound for the part of the said forfeiture appointed to the use of the Navy as aforesaid; and upon such Composition made, the said Court of Exchequer to give Judgement for the discharge of such Forfeiture against his Majesty: And that any of the Barons of the said Exchequer, shall and may give License to such Informer to Compound with the Defendant

Defendant for the said other part of the said Forfeiture.

An Order that all Wool of the growth of *Ireland* shall not be Transported into any parts out of that Kingdom, except into ENGLAND OR WALES.

ORdered by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, That no wool of the growth of Ireland, be transported in any Ship or Vessel into any parts out of that Kingdom (except into the Kingdom of England and Dominion of Wales) upon any warrant or pretence whatsoever, upon pain of forfeiture of the said wools; and that the Commissioners and Officers of the Customs and Ports in that Kingdom, do take effectual care and imploy their diligence that this Order be duly observed, and that they be very careful to take good security to the double value of the wools shipped; That the Transporters will unship and deliver the said wools in some Port of the Kingdom of England or Dominion of Wales, and that they will not transport the said wools into any other part or place whatsoever, and that they do bring Certificate that they have deliver the same accordingly; and that the Governors of the Provinces, and Commanders in Chief of the Forces in that Kingdom, do give order and charge, and take care, That all the Officers of Ports whom it may concern, do duly observe this order.

Passed the Nineteenth of *January*, 1647.

An Ordinance for Repairing CHURCHES, and for
payment of Church Duties.

FOr the upholding and keeping all Parish Churches and Chappels within this Kingdom of England and Dominion of Wales from utter ruine and decay, and for payment of Church Duties, It is Ordered and Ordained by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, That four, three, two or one substantial Inhabitant or Inhabitants of every Parish or Chappelry aforesaid (having respect to the proportions or greatness of every such Parish or Chappelry) shall be nominated and chosen yearly on the Monday or Tuesday in Easter Week, by the Parishioners of every Parish or Chappelry (which are or shall be rateable to the repair of any such Church or Chappel, or the greatest part of such of them as shall be then assembled for the choice of Officers within the Parish or Chappelry) to the Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or Collectors of monies for Church Duties, within every such Parish or Chappelry respectively, where any such Churchwarden or Churchwardens have or hath been formerly used to be nominated or chosen; or in default hereof, every such Parish or Chappelry shall forfeit the sum of Forty shillings to the use of the poor of the said parish, to be recovered as is hereafter expressed; which Churchwardens or Collectors so to be chosen, are within one Moneth after their choice to be allowed and approved of under the Hands and Seals of two of the next Justices adjoyning to the parish or Chappelry aforesaid.

And it is further Ordained, That the Churchwardens or Collectors aforesaid, together

gether with the Overseers of the poor of the same parish or Chappelry; or the greater part of them, upon publique notice thereof first to be given by the Churchwardens in the said Church or Chappel, shall from time to time make Rates or Assessments, by Taxation of every Inhabitant dwelling or residing within such parish or Chappelry, and of every Occupier of Lands, Houses, Tythes Improprate, or Impropration of Tythes, Colemanies, or saleable Underwoods, or other Hereditaments within the said parish or Chappelry, in such competent sum and sums of money as they shall think fit, for and towards the Reparation and maintenance of every such parish, church or chappel respectively, and providing of books for the said church or chappel, and of Bread and Wine to be used at the Administration of the Sacrament there, and for Repairing the Walls and Inclosures of the Church-yards, or Burying-places thereunto respectively belonging; and for doing and performing every such thing and things as by this Ordinance is appointed to be done, at the charge of such parish or Chappelry: As also for the doing and executing of all and every matter, which to the office, place or duty of the Churchwardens of any such place wherein they shall be respectively chosen, shall appertain to be done; which said Churchwarden or Churchwardens shall within four days after the end of their year, and after other Churchwarden or Churchwardens nominated, make and yield to the succeeding Churchwardens, and to such Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, a true and perfect Account of all Sums of Money by them received, or Rated and Assessed, and not Received;

ceibed; and of all other things concerning their said Office, and such sum or sums of Money as shall be in their hands, shall pay and deliver over to the said Church-Warden or Church-Wardens newly nominated and appointed as aforesaid, upon pain that every one of them being negligent or faulty therein, or in the execution of their said Office, shall forfeit for every such default or negligence, the sum of Twenty shillings to the use of the poor of such Parish or Chappelry as aforesaid, whereof he shall be Church-Warden. And it is Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That all Rates, Taxations and Assessments, heretofore made by the Church-Warden or Church-Wardens of any Parish or Chappelry aforesaid, by themselves or with others, according to the custom of such Parish or Chappelry, since the first day of March in the year of our Lord God 1641. for or towards the repair of any church or chappel respectively, or doing of any thing appointed by this Ordinance to be done, if they shall now be confirmed by the two next Justices of the Peace, they shall stand, and be as good and effectual in the Law, to all intents and purposes as if the same were to be made or done by and according to this Ordinance: And that it shall and may be lawful, as well for the present as subsequent Church-Warden, or Collectors, or any of them, their Rates being first confirmed by the two next Justices of the Peace, by warrant under the hands and seals of two such Justices of the Peace within such County or Towns Corporate, to levy as well all and every the said sums of Money, and all Arrearages of every one which shall refuse, or neglect to pay or contribute their rateable parts of such Assessments

ments as aforesaid, and the forfeitures before mentioned, by Distress and Sale of the Offenders goods; as also, all and every the sum and sums of Money which shall be behinde upon any Church Wardens Accompt, for or concerning the repair of any such Church or Chappel, or other the things aforesaid; and likewise the sum of two shillings for and towards the charge and expence in levying of the same, rendring to the party or parties the overplus; and in default of such Distress, it shall be lawful for any two such Justices of the Peace to commit him or her, or them so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid, to the common Goal of the County, City or Town corporate respectively where such Justices of the Peace are, and such offence shall be committed, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until payment of the said several Sums and Arrearages; and to commit to the said Prison, every one of the said Church Wardens which shall refuse to Accompt, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he hath made a true Accompt, and satisfied and paid so much as upon the said Accompt shall be remaining in his hands. Provided always, That if any person or persons shall finde him or her; or themselves agrieved with any Assessment or Tax, or other act done by the said Church Warden or Church Wardens, or by the said Justices of the Peace or any of them, that then it shall and may be lawful for the party grieved to complain thereof at the next general Quarter Sessions of the Peace, where the Justices of the Peace, or the greater number of them, shall make such order therein as to them shall be thought convenient, and the same to conclude and binde all the said parties.

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And be it further Ordained, That the Mayors, Bayliffs, or other head Officers of every City, Town, or Place corporate within this Realm, or the Dominion of Wales being Justice or Justices of the Peace, shall have the same Authority by vertue of this Ordinance within the severall Limits and Precincts of their Jurisdictions, as well out of Sessions as at their Sessions, if they shall hold any, as is before limited, prescribed and appointed to Justices of the Peace of the County, or any two or more of them, or to the Justices of the Peace in their Quarter Sessions to do and execute for all the uses and purposes in this present Ordinance prescribed, and no other Justice or Justices of the Peace to intermeddle there; and that every Alderman of the City of London, within his Ward, shall and may do and execute in every respect, so much as is appointed and allowed in this Ordinance to be done and executed by one or two Justices of the Peace of any County within this Realm. And be it also ordained, That if it shall happen that any Parish do extend it self into more Counties then one, or part thereof to lie within the Liberties of any City, Town or Place corporate, and part without, that then the Justices of the Peace of every County, as also the head Officer or Officers, or Justices of the Peace of such City, Town or Place corporate, shall deal and intermeddle onely in so much of the said Parish as lieth within their Liberties, and not any further; and every of them respectively within their severall Limits, Wards and Jurisdictions, to execute the Ordinance aforementioned concerning the confirming of Rates, the giving of Warrant for the levyng of Taxes unpaid, the committing to prison

prison such as refuse or neglect to pay their rateable part of the said Assessments, having no sufficient distresses, the taking Accompts of Church-Wardens, and the committing to prison such as refuse to accompt, or deny to pay the Arrearages due upon their Accompts; and yet nevertheless the Church-Wardens, or the greatest number of them of the said Parishes extending into such severall Limits and Jurisdictions, shall without dividing themselves, duly execute their office in all places within their said Parish in all things to them belonging; and shall duly exhibit and make one Accompt before the head Officer or Officers, or Justices of the Peace of such Town or Place corporate, and one other before the Justices of the said County, or any such two of them as is aforesaid.

And be it further Ordained, That if any Action of Trespals, or other Suit shall happen to be attempted, or brought against any person or persons for taking any Distress, or making any Sale, or any other thing doing by the Authority of this present Ordinance, the Defendant or Defendants in any such Action or Suit, and all others which in their aid and assistance, or by their commands shall do any act or thing touching or concerning the Premises or any of them, or his or their Officer or Officers, it shall and may be lawful for them and every of them to plead the general issue, That he or they are not guilty, and give such special matter in evidence to the Jury which shall try the same, which special matter being pleaded, had been a good and sufficient matter in Law to have discharged the said Defendant or Defendants of the Trespals or other matter laid to his charge; and that if upon the trial of any such Action or
 Suit.

Suit, the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall not prove to the Jury which shall try the same, That the fact or cause of his or their Action or Suit was, or were had, made, committed or done within the County wherein such Action or Suit shall be laid, That then in every such case the Jury which shall try the same, shall finde the Defendant or Defendants in every such Action or Suit Not-guilty, without having any respect or regard to any evidence given by the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs therein, touching the Trespass, Fact or Cause for which the same Action or Suit is or shall be brought; and that if the Verdict shall pass with the said Defendant or Defendants in such Action, or the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs therein become Non-suit, or suffer any Discontinuance thereof, that in every such case the Justice or Justices, or such other Judge or Court before Whom the said matter shall be tryed or depending, shall by force and vertue of this Ordinance, allow unto the Defendant or Defendants his or their double costs which he or they shall have sustained by reason of his or their wrongful veration in defence of the said Suit or Action, for which the said Defendant or Defendants shall have like remedy as in other cases where costs by the Law of this Realm are given to the Defendants. And for as much as the Church-Wardens or Collectors aforesaid may peradventure be careless or negligent in performing their duty, It is further Ordered and Ordained, That upon complaint made to the two next Justices or one of them, or other information had thereof, the aforesaid Justices, or one of them, shall or may in their own persons view the said Churches or Chapels, or appoint the Minister and some other of the

the Parishioners to certifie unto them or one of them, What reparations are or shall be needful, and thereupon they or one of them shall by a warrant under their hand and seals to the Church-Wardens order and direct what reparations shall be done within the said Churches or Chappels, and limit and appoint the time for the doing of the same; and if the Order aforesaid be not performed, they shall binde over the said Church-Wardens, or Collectors, or any of them for their negligence herein, to the next Sessions of the Peace; Where if the Court shall allow of the Order, the Offender or Offenders upon due proof of his or their negligence or offence herein shall be severally fined, so as the Fine exceeds not forty shillings upon any one of them, and the Offendor is to be committed until the Fine be paid, which is to be disposed of to the use of the poor of the said Parish or Chappelry. Provided always, and it is the intent and meaning of the said Ordinance, That the Parishioners and the Church-Wardens of any Parish or Chappelry shall not be charged with, or liable unto the repairing of any Chancel or Chancels, or of any particular Isle in Churches or Chappels, which have formerly by prescription or custom been used to be repaired by the Parsons or Vicars, Impropriators or others, but that the said Parsons, Vicars, Impropriators, and all other persons whatsoever, both Politique and Corporate, their Heirs and Successors, which have formerly been liable to the reparations of all or any part of any Church, Chappel, Chancel, Isle, or other place belonging to the same by any custom whatsoever, shall still be liable to the same to all intents and purposes; and for their negligence

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herein shall and may be Ordered by the two next Justices, or shall or may be presented or indicted by the Churchwardens or any others at the next Sessions of the Peace, Where the Offender for his Offence herein, shall be fined and proceeded against in such manner as the Church-warden for his negligence is to be proceeded against by vertue of this Ordinance. Provided also, Where any parish or chappelry hath any Lands or Tenements, or yearly Rents or Annuities formerly given to the repairing of their Churches or Chappels, and for Church Duties, the Church-wardens or Collectors aforesaid shall be from henceforth Receivers of the said Rents and Profits; and shall have power by Warrant from the Justices, to cause the parties who ought to pay the same, to be bound over to the next Sessions, where they shall be upon due proof and hearing the said parties, ordered to pay the said Rents and Profits to the Church-wardens and Collectors aforesaid, who shall dispose of the same according as it ought to be disposed of, and thereby ease the parish of so much of the charge, and shall yearly account for the same in their Accounts as Church Wardens. Provided, That this Ordinance, as to the Repairing of churches, shall not extend to parishes or chapeltries where the churches or chappels are totally subverted or ruined by these unhappy Wars, extremity of Age, or other casualties, nor to any Cathedrals or Collegiate Churches, which are onely to be repaired as formerly they have been used and accustomed. And lastly it is Ordained, That all Offences against this Ordinance shall and may be enquired of, heard and determined before his Majesties Justices of

of Assize of Oyer and Terminer, or Goal delivery, or before the Justices of the Peace of any county, city or Town corporate, where any such Offence shall be committed by proof of Witnesses upon Oath, which the Justices aforesaid shall hereby have power to administer, and at their general Sessions of the Peace by Indictment, Information or otherwise, as the case shall require, wherein no Wager of Law, Compromise, Protection or Injunction shall be admitted or allowed. And it is further Ordered by the Lords and Commons aforesaid, That all and every Sexton or parish Clerk within any of the parishes aforesaid, shall have their due fees from the several parishes, to be Ordered and Recovered by Warrant from the Justices, in such manner as the Rates made for Church-wardens are ordered to be levied by this Ordinance; and that they be elected and chosen in such manner, as formerly in every Parish hath been accustomed.

Passed the Ninth of February, 1647.

An Ordinance for Suppression of all Stage-Plays and Interludes.

Whereas the acts of Stage-plays, Interludes and Common-plays, condemned by ancient Heathens, and much less to be tolerated amongst Professors of the Christian Religion, is the occasion of many and sundry great vices and disorders, tending to the high Provocation of Gods Wrath and displeasure, which lies heavy upon this Kingdom, and to the disturbance of the peace thereof; in regard whereof, the same hath been prohibited by Ordinance of this present Parliament, and yet is presumed to be practised by divers

vers in contempt thereof; Therefore for the better suppression of the said Stage-plays, Interludes and common Players, It is Ordered and Ordained by the Lords and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by Authority of the same, That all Stage-players, and Players of Interludes and common Plays, are hereby declared to be, and are and shall be taken to be Rogues, and punishable within the Statutes of the Thirtieth ninth year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, and the seventh year of the Reign of King James, and lyable unto the pains and penalties therein contained, and proceeded against according to the said Statutes, whether they be Wanderers or no; and notwithstanding any License whatsoever from the King, or any person or persons to that purpose.

And it is further Ordered and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That the Lord Mayor, Justices of the Peace, and Sheriffs of the City of London and Westminster, and of the Counties of Middlesex and Surrey, or any two or more of them, shall and may, and are hereby authorized and required to pull down and demolish, or cause or procure to be pulled down and demolished, all Stage-Galleries, Seats and Boxes erected or used, or which shall be erected and used for the acting or playing, or seeing acted or plaid, such Stage-plays, Interludes and Plays aforesaid, within the said City of London and Liberties thereof, and other places within their respective Jurisdictions; and all such common Playes, and Actors of such Plays and Interludes, as upon view of them or any one of them, or by Oath of two witnesses (which they are hereby authorized to ad-

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minister) shall be proved before them or any two of them; to have acted or played such Plays and Interludes as aforesaid at any time hereafter, or within the space of two Moneths before the time of the said Conviction, by their Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals to cause to be apprehended, and openly and publicly whipt in some Market-Town within their severall Jurisdictions, during the time of the said Market; and also to cause such Offender and Offenders to enter into Recognizance or Recognizances, with two sufficient Sureties, never to act or play any Plays or Interludes any more, and shall return in the said Recognizance or Recognizances into the Sessions or Sessions to be then next holden for the said Counties and Cities respectively; and to commit to the common Goal any such person and persons as aforesaid as shall refuse to be bound, and finde such Sureties as aforesaid, untill he or they shall so become bound. And in case any such person or persons so convicted of the said Offence, shall after again offend in the same kinde, that then the said person or persons so offending shall be, and is hereby Declared to be, and be taken as an incorrigible Rogue, and shall be punished and dealt with as an incorrigible Rogue ought to be by the said Statutes.

And it is hereby further Ordered and Ordained, That all and every sum and sums of Money gathered, Collected and taken by any person or persons, of such persons as shall come to see and be Spectators of the said Stage-plays and Interludes, shall be forfeited and paid unto the Churchwardens of the Church or parish where the said sums shall be so Collected

and taken, to be disposed of to the use of the poor of the said Parish, and shall from time to time be levied by the said Churchwardens and Constables of the said Parish, by Warrant under the hands and seals of any two of the Justices of the Peace of the County, City or Town Corporate, where the said sums are so taken and Collected; upon complaint thereof to them made, on the Goods and Chattels of the person or persons Collecting the same, or of the person and persons to whom the same shall be paid by them that Collect the same, by Distress and Sale of their Goods and Chattels, rendering to them the overplus, upon examination of the said persons, or proof made upon Oath before the said Justices, of the sum or sums so Collected and Received, which the said Justices are hereby authorized to take and examine.

And it is hereby further Ordered and Ordained, That every person or persons which shall be present, and a Spectator at any such Stage-play or Interlude hereby prohibited; shall for every time he shall be so present, forfeit and pay the sum of five shillings to the use of the poor of the Parish where the said person or persons shall at that time dwell or sojourn, being convicted thereof by his own Confession, or proof of any one Witness upon Oath before any one Justice of Peace of the County, City, or Town Corporate where the said Offence is committed (who is hereby authorized to take the same Oath) to be levied by the Churchwardens or Constables of the said Parish by Warrant of the said Justice of Peace, by distress and sale of the Goods of the said person offending, rendering to him the overplus.

And

And it is hereby further Ordered and Ordained, That all Mayors, Bailiffs, Constables and other Officers, Soldiers and other persons being thereunto required, shall be from time to time, and all times hereafter, aiding and assisting unto the said Lord Mayor, Justices of the Peace and Sheriffs, in the due execution of this Ordinance, upon pain to be fined for their contempt in their neglect or refusal thereof.

Passed the Eleventh of February, 1647.

An Ordinance for the better payment of Tythes and Duties to the Ministers of the City of London.

Wheras by an Ordinance of Parliament of the eighth of Novemb. Anno Dom. One thousand six hundred forty four, Entituled, An Ordinance of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, for the true payment of Tythes and other such Duties, according to the Laws and Customs of the Realm, there is a Proviso, That the said Ordinance, or any thing therein contained, shall not extend to any Tythes, Offerings, yearly Payments or other Ecclesiastical Duties, due or to be due for any Houses, Buildings or other Hereditaments within the City of London or the Liberties thereof, which be otherwise provided for by Act of Parliament: And whereas some doubt and scruple hath been made, whether the Lord Mayor of the said City of London be sufficiently authorized to relieve such Ministers within the said City or the Liberties thereof, as have been put into any Bench or Ecclesiastical Living by way of Sequestration by both or either Houses of Parliament, or by the Committee for Plundered

Hundred Ministers, or any other Committee of Parliament; Be it therefore Ordered and Ordained by the Lords and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, That the said proviso in the before mentioned Ordinance of the Eighth of November, One thousand six hundred forty four, be hereby repealed and wholly made null and void, and that the said Ordinance of the Eighth of November, One thousand six hundred forty four, and the Ordinance of the ninth of August, One thousand six hundred forty seven, Entituled, An Additional Ordinance of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, for the true payment of Tythes and other Duties; and the Ordinance of the three and twentieth of August, One thousand six hundred forty seven, Entituled, An Ordinance for keeping in godly Ministers, placed in Livings by Authority of Parliament; and all other Ordinances of Parliament concerning the payment of Tythes, Rates for Tythes, Rents or other Duties, do extend unto the said City of London and the Liberties thereof, and be put in execution by the Lord Mayor of the said City for the time being; or by any two Justices of Peace within the said City or Liberties thereof, who are hereby authorized and required respectively, to require and command the aid of all Constables and other Officers that shall be by the said Lord Mayor or Justices of Peace as aforesaid, appointed for their assistance in the due execution of this Ordinance, as well within their several parishes or precincts as without, as well in cases of Sequestration as otherwise, to all intents and purposes, and in the like manner as in and by the said Ordinances is Ordained, Limited and appointed to be executed and done in any other place

place or places within the Kingdom of England
by the respective Justices of Peace and other
Officers in the said Ordinances mentioned.

Provided, That this Ordinance or any thing therein contained, shall not be construed to extend to the payment of any other kinde of Tythes, Payments, Rents or Duties, then such as have been paid at any time since the beginning of this Parliament, or two years before.

Passed the Fourth of *April*, 1648.

An Act for discharging from Imprisonment poor Prisoners,
unable to satisfy their Creditors.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament,
and by the Authority thereof, That if any
person who is or shall be on the One and
twentieth of December, One thousand six hun-
dred forty and nine, in prison in any County,
City, Town or place Within England, the Do-
minion of Wales, or the Town of Berwick upon
Tweed, upon any Execution, or any other Pro-
cess, where the cause of Action was originally
for Debt, or for breach of Promise, Contract
or Covenant, shall by his Petition desire any
Justice of Peace of the County, City, Town or
place, wherein he is so Imprisoned, to make a
Warrant in the nature of a Habeas Corpus cum
causa, under his Hand and Seal to the Sheriff,
Goalier or Keeper of the said Prison, to bring
without delay the body of the same prisoner,
and return the Cause or Causes of his Impri-
sonment before him, to the intent that the said
Justice of Peace may administer unto the said
Prisoner, the Oath herein after mentioned;
That then the said Justice of Peace upon such
Petition

Petition so made, shall be Authorized and Enjoyed by this present Act, forthwith to make a Warrant under his Hand and Seal, in the nature of a Writ of Habeas Corpus cum causa, to the said Sheriff, Goaler or Keeper of such Prisoner, returnable at a short day then next following, according to the distance of the place, to bring the Body of the said Prisoner, and to return the Cause or Causes of his Imprisonment before him; And if upon the return of the said Warrant in the nature of a Writ of Habeas Corpus cum causa, it shall appear that the said prisoner is in prison for any the Causes aforesaid, at the Suit of one or more person or persons, upon any Execution or Executions, or other process, That then the said Justice of Peace, upon the request of the said prisoner shall, and is hereby authorized to administer to the said prisoner this Oath; viz. Mutatis Mutandis in respect of the person or persons so taking the same.

That *bona fide* he or she is not worth in Possession, Reversion or Remainder of any Estate real or personal, except onely the Debts due to him or them from the Parliament, for the Service of the Commonwealth, to the value of Five pounds, besides necessary wearing Apparel, and bedding for himself, wife and children, and Tools necessary for his Trade or Occupation, not exceeding the value of Five pounds; and hath not directly or indirectly sold, leased, or otherwise conveyed or intrusted his or her Estate, or any part thereof, thereby to expect any profit, benefit or advantage, or to deceive or defraud his Creditors.

And upon the said Prisoners taking or refusing to take the said Oath, The said Justice of Peace is hereby required and enjoined to re-
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mand the Body of the said Prisoner to the Prison from whence he came ; And in case the said Prisoner shall take the said Oath, Then the said Justice of Peace shall without delay, by Writing under his Hand and Seal, make Certificate or Certificates, as well of the said prisoners taking of the said Oath, together with the time and place of the taking thereof, as of the said Warrant in the nature of a Habeas Corpus, with the Return thereof, unto the Court or Courts from whence the Process or Processes of Execution or Executions issued upon which such prisoner was Imprisoned : And upon Return of the said Certificate or Certificates into the Court or Courts aforesaid, the Judges of the said Court or Courts are hereby Authorized, enabled and required thereupon, to issue out, or cause to be issued out, four days of course, under the Seal or Seals of the said Court or Courts (at the Suit of the said Prisoner) one or more Writ or Writs of Scire facias, with a Non omittas propter aliquam libertatem grounded upon the same Certificate or Certificates (every of the said Writs to have thirty days at the least between the Teste and the Return thereof) directed to the Sheriff or Sheriffs of any County, or any Mayor or Bailiff of any City, Borough or Town Corporate in England or Wales, wherein the party or parties (upon whose Action, Suit or Prosecution the said prisoner is Imprisoned) or his or their Executors or Administrators, or some of them respectively shall be supposed to be dwelling, and thereby to command the same Sheriff or Sheriffs, Bayliff or any other Officer authorized by the Law, to give fourteen days warning at the least before the Return of the said Writ or Writs, to the person

person of such person or persons, at or upon whose Action, Suit or Prosecution the said prisoner is imprisoned, or to his or their Executors or Administrators or some of them respectively, in case he or they, or some of them respectively may be found; and in case he or they or some of them respectively cannot be found, then to leave writing under his hand and seal, at the least fourteen days before the Return of the said writ or writs, at the dwelling place or places of him, them, or some of them respectively, therein reciting the said writ or writs, and thereby requiring him or them to appear in the same court or courts, at the day and place in the said writ or writs limited, to shew cause, according to the purport of the said writ or writs, wherefore the said prisoner shall not be enlarged out of prison according to this Act; Whereupon the Sheriff or Sheriffs, or any other legal Officer, shall make his or their Return or Returns of his doings therein accordingly; and if the said Sheriff or Sheriffs, or any other legal Officer shall return, That he hath warned the said person or persons, or left such writing or warning at his or their dwelling place or places, according to the command of the said writ or writs; and if the person or persons so warned, or for whom such writing or warning shall be left to appear as is aforesaid, shall not at the day or days of the return of the same writ or writs appear in person, or by his or their Attorney or Attorneys, or shall appear and confess the surmise of the said writ or writs to be true, or if he or they after such appearance shall plead nothing in Bar of the said writ or writs, and the surmise therein contained, or shall not plead thereunto as hereafter is directed
and

and expressed, Then and in such case the said Court or Courts shall, and are hereby enabled and authorized to give Judgement by Confession, *Nihil dicit non sum informatus*, or otherwise as is usual in like cases, for the enlarging and discharging the said prisoner out of prison, and thereupon to Award a writ unto the Keeper of the said Prisoner for his Enlargement and Discharge accordingly: And in case the said person or persons so warned, or for whom such warning shall be left as aforesaid, shall appear upon the Return of the said writ or writs, Then he or they shall not plead any thing to hinder the Enlargement of the said Prisoner, other then that the said prisoner hath a greater Estate Real or Personal then is expressed in his said Oath; or that the said prisoner hath directly or indirectly conveyed or intrusted his or their Estate, or some part thereof, expecting to have some benefit or advantage, or to deceive or defraud his Creditors; or that the said prisoner hath been in Arms against the Parliament of England, or hath adhered to the Forces raised against the same: And if he or they shall plead unto the same, That the said prisoner hath a greater Estate real or personal then is expressed in his said Oath; or that the said prisoner hath directly or indirectly conveyed or intrusted his or their Estate, or some part thereof, expecting to have some benefit or advantage, or to deceive or defraud his or her Creditors; or that the said Prisoner hath been in Arms against the Parliament of England, or hath adhered unto the Forces raised against the same, Then the said Prisoner by his Attorney shall thereunto Reply, and take issue thereupon;

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thereupon; and if by verdict of twelve men it shall be found for the prisoner, then the said Court shall give Judgement for the Inlarging and Discharging of the said prisoner out of Prison, and thereupon award a Writ unto the Keeper of the said prisoner for his Inlargement and Discharge accordingly; but in case the said Verdict shall be found against the prisoner, then the said prisoner shall remain and continue in prison, in Execution or otherwise, as formerly he did, and as if this Act had never been had or made. Provided always, and be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every such prisoner and prisoners as shall desire the benefit of this Act, shall be admitted by vertue of this Act, to sue out and prosecute all and every the said Writs, Warrants, Returns and Proceedings before-mentioned, *informa Pauperis*. Provided also, and be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That notwithstanding the discharge of the person of such prisoner as is aforesaid, all and every such Judgement had or taken against him, shall be, and stand good and effectual in the Law, to all intents and purposes, against the Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments, Goods and Chattels of the said prisoner or prisoners so discharged as aforesaid, and that it shall and may be lawful to and for every Creditor of such prisoner or prisoners so discharged as aforesaid, his Executors, Administrators or Assigns, to take out any new Execution against the Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Goods and Chattels of such prisoner or prisoners (his Wearing Apparel, Bedding for him and his family,

family, and Tools necessary for his Trade and Occupation, not exceeding the value of Five pounds only excepted) for the satisfaction of his or their said Debt, in such sort, maner and form as he or they might have done, if the person or persons of such prisoner or prisoners had never been taken in Execution, Any thing in this Act, or any Law, Statute, Ordinance or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. Provided also, and be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if at any time Within seven years after the taking of the said Oath, the said prisoner or prisoners shall upon any Indictment or Indictments be convicted by his or their own Confession, or by verdict of twelve men, of false Swearing in any point or Article contained in the said Oath, as he or they shall or may be by force of this Act, Then such prisoner or prisoners so convicted as aforesaid, shall suffer all such pains and forfeitures, as by the Statute of Quinto of Queen Elizabeth are to be inflicted upon any person convicted of wilful Perjury: And also the said Court or Courts by which he or they were discharged, shall Award a Capias ad satisfaciend' infinite, or other process directed to any Sheriff or Sheriffs for the apprehending of the said prisoner; and upon the return of a Cepi Corpus, the said Court shall remand the said prisoner unto the Prison from whence he was dismissed, there to remain in Execution, in such maner and condition as he was before his said Enlargement: And then and from thenceforth he shall be adjudged to be in Execution, as fully as if he had never been discharged thereof; and the Execution and Executions upon his Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments,

reditaments, Goods and Chattels, if any such shall happen to be after his or their said discharge out of prison, and before he shall be so remanded, shall stand also good and effectual in Law, Any Law, Custom or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Passed the One and twentieth of *December*, 1649.

An Additional Act for the further Ease and Relief of Poor
PRISONERS.

BE it Enacted by this present Parliament, And the Authority thereof, That all such poor Prisoners as have or shall take the Oath prescribed by an Act of this present Parliament, Entituled, An Act for discharging from Imprisonment Poor Prisoners, unable to satisfie their Creditors; and shall prosecute their Habeas Corpus, shall upon such Habeas Corpus be permitted by the Keeper and Keepers of the respective Prisons, unto whom such Habeas Corpus shall be directed, to have and enjoy their liberty to go abroad during the time limited in such Habeas Corpus, upon the personal security of such prisoner and prisoners, to render him and themselves at the day of the return of such Habeas Corpus; And that all and every Keeper or Warden of every such Prison and Prisons be hereby authorized and required upon such Habeas Corpus and security, for which securities no Fees shall be taken, to permit such prisoner and prisoners to go at liberty as aforesaid: And that upon any Action of Escape, or other Suit brought or to be brought against any Keeper or Warden of any such Prison for any thing done in obedience to this Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Keeper and Warden of such Prison and Prisons to plead the General Issue, and give this Act, in Evidence,
which

Which shall be a good and sufficient discharge, and shall save harmless every Keeper and Warden of any Prison pleading the same; and if the Plaintiff in such Action shall be Non-suit, or verdict pass against him, the Defendant shall have double costs, to be taxed by the Court where such Action shall be brought. Provided always, That such liberty as aforesaid shall not be deemed to extend to discharge such prisoner and prisoners out of Execution, but that such person and persons, and his and their Lands and Estates shall remain lyable to such Execution, in such sort as by the Act before mentioned is provided, and as if the said person or persons had not gone abroad by vertue of any such Habeas Corpus, Any Law, Statute or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding. And it is hereby further Enacted and Declared, That the Lords Commissioners for the Great Seal of England, shall and may, and are hereby authorized to grant one or more Writs of Habeas Corpus, to any Keeper or Warden of any Prison in England and Wales, for any person or persons that have or shall take their respective Oathes, according to the said Act herein before recited; and the respective Keepers or Wardens of Prisons to whom such writ or writs of Habeas Corpus shall be directed, shall give obedience thereunto, and return the same with the Bodies of their respective Prisoners accordingly.

Passed the Sixth of *April*, 1650.

An Act to make void all Titles of Honor, Dignities or Precedencies given by the late King, since the Fourth of *January*, 1641.

FOrasmuch as the late King, to promote his
Wicked and Traiterous Designs against the

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Parliament and people of England, did use all ways and means to draw unto himself a party to assist him, and did, contrary to the end for which he was entrusted, take upon him to confer upon and give Titles of Honor, Dignities and Precedencies, by Patents or otherwise, unto such persons as he thought were or might be Serviceable to him in the work he did intend to put in Execution: Now to the end that no persons should presume to assume unto themselves any Titles, Honors, Dignities or Advantage, by a work so much contrary to the Interest of the Nation; Be it Enacted by this present Parliament, and by the Authority thereof, That all and every Honors, Titles, Dignities and Precedencies whatsoever, granted, conferred or given by the said King since the Fourth day of January, which was in the year One thousand six hundred forty one, be, and are hereby made null and void to all intents and purposes; and that no person or persons whatsoever, shall from and after the five and twentieth day of March, One thousand six hundred fifty and two, presume to assume unto themselves, either by writing or otherwise, any Titles, Honors, Dignities or Precedencies, by colour or pretence of any such Grant or otherwise, conferred upon them as aforesaid. And be it further Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That the Commissioners for the Great Seal are and be hereby authorized and required, to issue out writs to the Sheriffs of the several and respective Counties of this Commonwealth, to give notice to all persons whatsoever who pretend to any such Honors by any pretended Patent, or bring in their said patents into y^e court of Chancery, within three moneths after the respective pub=

publications of the said Writs by the said Sheriffs, under the penalty of Fifty pounds to be levied upon every person or persons, their Lands or Goods, for every Moneth they shall neglect to perform the same, by process out of the publique Exchequer as in case of other Fines: And the Barons of the publique Exchequer are hereby authorized and required to put the same in Execution accordingly; Which said Money to be one half to the parties informing, and the other half to go to the defraying of the publique Charge of the respective Counties Where the said Lands or Goods lie, and shall be levied for and towards the maintenance and imployment of the poor there, which shall be paid by the respective Sheriffs to such as the Justices at the publique Sessions shall appoint; Which said payments, the Barons of y^e publique Exchequer are hereby required to allow upon the severall Sheriffs their Accompts; Which said Patents or Grants so brought in, the said Commissioners are hereby authorized and required to cause to be Cancelled and Defaced. And be it further Enacted by this present Parliament, and the Authority thereof, That if any person or persons shall after the Five and Twentieth day of March, One thousand six hundred fifty and two, assume to themselves by Writing or otherwise, any such Honours, Titles, Dignities or Precedencies under the pretence of Grant, or being conferred as aforesaid, That every person so offending, shall forfeit for every such Offence, if of the Title of Nobleman, that is to say, A Duke, Marquis, Earl, Viscount or Baron, the sum of One hundred pounds; and every person pretending to the Title of a Baronet or Knight, for

for every Offence the sum of Forty pounds, to be recovered by Bill or Information in the publique Exchequer, or in publique Sessions in the usual way, the one half to go to the maintenance and imployment of the poor in the respective Counties Where the Monies shall be levied, the other half to the party Informing. And be it further Enacted by the Authority hereof, That if any person or persons whatsoever, shall voluntarily and knowingly, in Writing or otherwise, give unto any person or persons who do or have pretended to Titles, Honors, Dignities and Precedencies as aforesaid, any Titles prohibited and intended to be made null by this Act, All such persons so offending, shall for every such Offence forfeit the sum of Ten shillings, the one half to go to the party informing, the other half to be to the poor of the Parish Where the offence shall be committed, the offence being proved by confession of the Parish Where the Offence shall be committed, the Offence being proved by confession of the party, or proof by the Oath of one or more witnesses or witnesses, before one or more Justices of Peace are hereby Authorized and Required to cause the same to be paid accordingly, and in case of refusal, to levy by distress of the parties Goods, rendering the overplus upon sale; and for want of Distress, to cause the said person or persons to be set in the publique Stocks for three hours.

Passed the Fourth of *February*, 1651.

FINIS.

A T A B L E

OF THE

Principal Matters contained in the several ACTS and ORDINANCES

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